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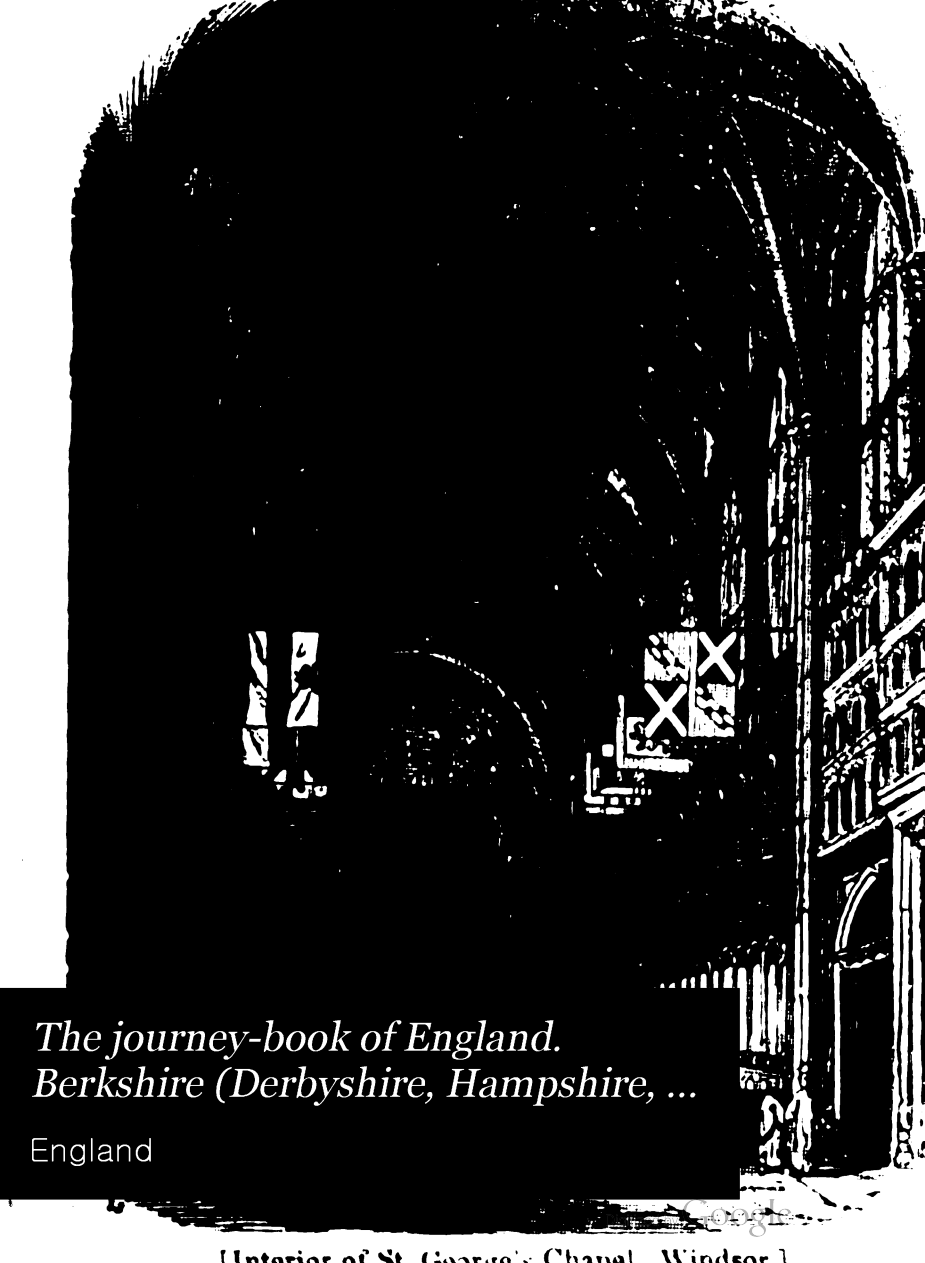
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*The journey-book of England.
Berkshire (Derbyshire, Hampshire, ...*

England

[Interior of St. George's Chapel, Windsor]

Handed
1910



THE
JOURNEY-BOOK OF ENGLAND.

BERKSHIRE:

INCLUDING A

FULL DESCRIPTION OF WINDSOR CASTLE.

WITH

TWENTY-THREE ENGRAVINGS ON WOOD, AND AN ILLUMINATED
MAP OF THE COUNTY.

Gough Additions Top
No 232.

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NOTICE.

THE present Volume is the first of a Series which it is intended to publish, under the general Title of 'THE JOURNEY-BOOK OF ENGLAND.' The entire Series, if completed in a manner answerable to the wishes and intentions of the Publishers, will form a *Topographical Description of all the English Counties*, permanently useful for general reading and reference as a library work, while each separate volume is intended to serve as an accurate Guide to particular localities. The description of each County will be arranged, for the most part, in the order in which each place actually presents itself on the chief lines of communication; and as *Railways*, in a great degree, already determine the routes of those who journey, whether for business or amusement, especial regard has been had to such an order as may naturally arise out of this great characteristic of the Travelling of England at the present day. This volume, for example, is not only a Topographical Guide to Berkshire, but a Companion to that large portion of the Great Western Railway which runs through forty-five miles of this County. It is necessary to state that the Publishers have the advantage of employing in this Series the Topographical Articles of 'The Penny Cyclopædia,' a body of materials unrivalled for completeness and accuracy. In moulding these articles, with large additions, into their present form, no pains will be spared to bring up the information to the most recent period. The *Illuminated Map*, which will accompany each Volume, will be found, in the clearness which results from its peculiar mode of colouring, superior to any existing County Map on a similar scale.

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THE JOURNEY-BOOK OF BERKSHIRE.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

THE county which we call Berkshire, or, as it is written by our older topographers, Barkshire, was anciently named by the Latin writers 'Bercheria;' by the Saxons Berroc-ryne (Berroc-scyre), which name Asser Menevensis derives from Berroc, a certain wood where grew plenty of box; others from an oak dis-barked (which the word *beroke* means), at which, in critical times, the inhabitants used to meet to consult about their affairs. (Gough's *Camden*.) In Leland's *Itinerary* (vol. ii. fol. 2) it is called *Barkshir*. The name, whatever be its original meaning, seems to be included in the appellation given by Cæsar (*Bell. Gall.*) to a tribe which inhabited this county—the Bi-broc-i: for bark and broc are in fact the same.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

Berkshire is situated within the basin of the Thames, which forms, in its sinuous course from the neighbourhood of Lechlade in Gloucestershire to below

Windsor, the northern boundary of the county, and separates it from the counties of Gloucester, Oxford, and Bucks, which lie on the other side of the river. The county of Wilts borders Berkshire on the west; the line of division between them, though irregular, has a general bearing N.N.W. and S.S.E. from the bank of the Thames to a few miles south of Hungerford. A line, running with tolerable regularity east and west, and coinciding in one part with the course of the river Emborne, a feeder of the Kennet, and in another part with the course of the river Loddon, a feeder of the Thames, separates the county from Hampshire; and on the south-east a line running north-east and south-west separates it from Surrey.

The dimensions of the county are as follow:—length, east and west from the border of Wiltshire between Hungerford and Lambourn to Old Windsor on the Thames, forty-three miles, nearly; breadth, north and south from the bank of the Thames north west of

Oxford to the border of Hampshire, near Newbury, thirty-one miles, nearly. A line of about fifty-two miles may be drawn from the north-western extremity of the county to Old Windsor, but this line, from the irregularity of the northern boundary, will not lie entirely within the county. The area of the county is given at 758 square miles, equal to

485,120 acres, in the table appended to Arrowsmith's great map of England; or at 752 square miles, or 481,280 acres (or computing by the separate parishes, 472,270 acres), according to the population returns: it therefore forms about one seventy-sixth part of England and Wales.

PHYSICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

SURFACE.

The principal high land in this county consists of a range of downs running W. by N. or W.N.W. from the banks of the Thames between Reading and Wallingford, into the northern part of Wiltshire. These hills, which, with the Marlborough Downs in Wiltshire and the Chilterns of Buckinghamshire, form one chalky range, rise in some parts to a considerable elevation. At Scutchamfly station, on the Cuckhamsley hills, a part of this range, a short distance south-east of Wantage, the height is 853 feet, and the White Horse Hill, which forms a part of the range, and is near the western border of the county, is 893 feet high. It may be observed of the whole chalk range of which these Berkshire hills form a part, that the northern or north-western declivity is more elevated and has a steeper slope than the other. This declivity is also marked by its being bare of wood and covered with a fine turf. These characters are preserved in that part which

lies within Berkshire. The southern slope of the range, which descends to the vale watered by the Kennet, sinks for the most part gently, the chalk disappearing under reddish clay, sand, and gravel. The western part of the chalk range, which is the most elevated, is used for sheep-walks. These are of good quality, but not to be compared in extent with those of Wiltshire or Dorsetshire. The eastern part of the range is sufficiently covered with soil to become arable. The streams which rise on the northern declivity flow into the Thames; those which rise on the southern slope flow into the Kennet, which drains the waters of the south part of the county, or into a small stream which falls into the Thames a few miles above Reading. There are some hills which skirt the valley of the Thames in the northern part of the county, from the neighbourhood of Faringdon to below Oxford. These hills consist of shelly, polite, and calcareous and shelly sand with grit-stone. (Greenough's *Geological Map*

(*of England.*) Between these hills and the chalk range already described is the fertile vale of White Horse, which is drained by the Ock. The vale of White Horse opens into the low lands which line the right bank of the Thames from Abingdon to a point a few miles above Wallingford, at which point the vale of Aylesbury, drained by the Thame, opens into the valley of the Thames on the left bank, just below Dorechester. There is some high land (463 feet high in one part) on the border of the county towards Bagshot in Surrey.

RIVERS.

The principal river of Berkshire is the Thames, which however is not, in any part, included within the county, but forms, as already noticed, its northern boundary. The direct distance between the two points where the river first touches the county and where it finally leaves it is about fifty-two miles; but from the winding course of the stream, the distance measured along the bank is 105 to 110 miles. An account of the Thames as a means of traffic and intercourse will be subsequently given. Oxford, Wilts, Berks, Bucks, and parts of Gloucester and Hampshire, comprising an area of about 2500 square miles, are drained by the Upper Thames. After heavy rains the river is occasionally flooded, and the low lands inundated to a considerable extent, the waters of the Kennet and other tributaries being collected into one channel before it reaches Windsor.

The Kennet, which rises in Wiltshire about four miles N.W. of Silbury Hill, enters the county near Hungerford, having previously served for a short distance as a boundary between Wiltshire and Berkshire. From Hungerford the stream runs eastward (being much divided, and flowing in several channels) by Avington and Kentbury to Newbury, below which it receives the Lambourn, which rises in the chalk hills above the town of the same name. The Kennet then continues its course (being still frequently divided into several smaller streams which again unite) to the village of Aldermaston, and there bending to the north-east to Reading, falls into the Thames a little below that town. That part of its course which can be considered as belonging to this county is about thirty to thirty-two miles; the course of the Lambourn to its junction with the Kennet is about fifteen miles. Both of these rivers produce trout, pike, barbel, eels, crayfish, perch, chub, roach, and dace. The trouts of the Kennet are of great size; those of the Lambourn are of a paler colour and not so much esteemed.

The Loddon rises in Hampshire, and for some distance separates that county from Berkshire, flowing towards the W.N.W. Near the village of Swallowfield it turns to the N.N.E. and flows to Hurst Park, receiving by the way the Emme Brook. From Hurst Park it turns to the N.W. and flows into the Thames between Reading and Henley. Its whole length is nearly thirty miles, of which about six miles are along the

border of Berkshire and twelve within that county. Above its outfall its waters divide, and flow into the Thames by several channels. Leland, in his *Itinerary*, observes that he crossed its different arms by four bridges.

The Ock rises in the western part of the county, runs a general E.N.E. course, and receiving many tributaries by the way, falls into the Thames near Abingdon. Its whole course is about twenty miles. The fish in it are pike, considered remarkably fine, perch, gudgeon, roach, dace, and crayfish.

The Emborne rises in the south-western corner of the county, and flowing astward, divides it from Hampshire. Near Brimpton it turns to the north, and falls into the Kennet after a course of about eighteen miles.

WOODLANDS.

The south and east sides of Berkshire have a large proportion of woodland. Leland, in his *Itinerary*, vol. ii. fol. 2, speaks of "a great warfeage of timbre and fier wood at the west ende of the (Maidenhead) bridge; and this wood," he adds, "cummith out of Barkshir, and the great woddis of the forest of Windelesore and the greate Frithe." The predominant wood is hazel, intermixed with oak, ash, beech, chestnut, and alder. The whole of the south part of the county was once occupied by the forest of Windsor, which extended in one direction into Buckinghamshire, and in another into Surrey as far as Chertsey, Cobham, and even Guildford, and reached westward so far as Hungerford

along the vale of the Kennet. The vale of the Kennet was disafforested by charter in the year 1226; and a considerable part of Windsor Forest is now in a state of cultivation, an act having passed for its inclosure in the year 1813. A great part of Bagshot Heath was within the boundaries of the forest.

The woods and coppice scattered over the county add to the diversity, which is a beautiful feature in its landscapes as viewed from eminences. Considerable quantities of timber are annually felled, and during the war the finest trees were readily purchased for the dock-yards. The high prices then given have considerably diminished the number of old oaks, but very fine trees may still be found in some of the gentlemen's parks, and occasionally in the hedge-rows, which are still tolerably furnished with timber, of which elm forms a considerable portion. The Forest of Windsor, with the exception of the neighbourhood of the parks, had but few trees on the wastes, and these more picturesque in appearance from their age than valuable as timber. Some of the oldest oaks in Cranbourn Wood are mere hollow trunks, with a few picturesque branches; but there are extensive plantations of recent growth.

CLIMATE.

The climate of Berkshire is one of the most healthy in England. The chalky hills in the western part of the county are remarkable for the invigorating and bracing qualities of the air.

The vales being milder may perhaps suit delicate constitutions better, and having pure streams running through them, which make the air circulate and purify it, they are considered as healthy as the hills. Fevers and epidemic diseases are very rare.

SOIL.

The soil, as may be expected in a county of such extent and so irregular a shape, is extremely varied. In Kennedy and Grainger's 'Tenancy of Land' it is said of the land in Berkshire that "there is but very little of it that unites the qualities of a free-working soil and good substance, it being in general very poor upon the hills, whilst in the lowlands it is cold and laborious to work." The principal hills are composed of chalk; the valleys of different sorts of loam, in which clay predominates, with gravel and sand upon it rising into small elevations. Along the rivers there are alluvial deposits. The whole county seems to lie over chalk or limestone. Windsor Castle, at one extremity, stands on a solitary mass of chalk surrounded by stiff clay. This clay, in some places, has a depth of 300 feet over the chalk, as was found in boring for water near Winkfield plain. The chalk rises to the surface near Maidenhead and Marlow. The chalk, which dips so deep under Windsor Forest, appears again in Hampshire. The clay of the forest is a compact blue clay, of the same nature as that which is usually called the London clay, and in which nearly the whole bed of the

Thames lies, from near Reading to the sea.

Over this clay lies the poor sand and loam impregnated with iron, known by the name of Bagshot-heath land, which extends into Hampshire and Surrey; and also the richer alluvial soils in the valleys, and along the banks of the Thames and the Kennet. Under the vale of White Horse, where the richest soils occur, the chalk runs into a harder limestone of a blue colour, and a free-stone or oolite which composes the Cotswold Hills in Gloucestershire.

In the vale of White Horse are some of the most fertile lands in England. The western part of the vale is chiefly covered with rich pastures, the soil being a good loam on a sound and dry subsoil. Along the bottom of the White Horse hills lies the rich corn-land for which the vale is renowned, intermixed with gravel and sandy loams of an inferior quality, and some very stiff clays. This land is chiefly arable, and is called white land, from the admixture of finely divided calcareous earth in its composition. It has the appearance of an alluvial deposit, enriched by the finer parts of the chalk washed down from the neighbouring hills. Along the Thames is a belt of rich meadows, extending in some places only a very short distance from the river, and no where above two miles. These meadows have not been improved by irrigation so much as they might be, and are chiefly fertilised by the winter and spring floods. The next district in importance, in an agricultural point of view, is the

vale of Kennet, extending along the river of that name, and on the south of the hills above mentioned, from Hungerford to Reading, a distance of about twenty-five miles. The soil of this vale is not so generally fertile as that of White Horse, which is called 'The Vale,' by way of pre-eminence; but its soil is well adapted to the growth of corn; and the inferiority in natural fertility is compensated by superior care in the cultivation.

The soil in this vale is chiefly gravelly, covered with a layer of more or less depth of loam, some of which is of a reddish colour, and may vie in fertility with the white land in the vale of White Horse. On the south of the Kennet are some compact clays, in which oaks thrive, and where good crops of wheat and beans are raised with careful culture. South of Newbury, towards the boundary of the county, the soil becomes less productive, till it assumes the character of the brown heath which indicates the barren ferruginous sand of Bagshot. Along the river Kennet, from Hungerford to Reading, there is a valuable tract of water-meadows, which in some places are capable of considerable improvement by a better distribution and regulation of the waters of the river. These meadows produce much herbage, which is sometimes made into hay, and at other times depastured with sheep and cattle, but the aftermath is not found so good for sheep, being apt to rot them. They are let for spring feed at thirty or forty shillings per acre, the latter having the privilege

of folding the sheep at night, which is an advantage equal to 10s. more. This is from Lady-day to old May-day; after which they will still produce a ton and a-half, or two tons of hay per acre when mown, or the grass may be cut green for cart-horses, which is thought more profitable to a certain extent.

Under the meadows, along part of the Kennet near Newbury, there is a species of peat, which is extensively reduced to ashes by burning, and applied as a top-dressing to clover and artificial grasses. It lies in some places only eighteen inches below the surface, and in others four or five feet. The stratum varies in thickness from one to eight or nine feet. The bottom on which it rests is a gravelly loam with an uneven surface. The true peat is of a compact nature, and is composed almost entirely of vegetable matter. In it are found the remains of trees partly decomposed, and surrounded by a tough mass of decomposed aquatic plants. This peat is dug out, with a long and narrow spade made for the purpose, in oblong pieces, which are laid to dry, and then placed in the form of a dome, and set on fire from below. As the peat begins to burn, more is added, so as to keep up a smothered fire; and in proportion as the heap increases, and the fire becomes more powerful, moister pieces are put on to prevent its breaking out. Thus a large mass of slowly burning peat is formed, which burns for a month or six weeks before the whole is properly converted into ashes. This heap is often three or four yards high,

and fifteen or twenty yards in circumference. As soon as the ashes are cooled the whole is riddled to separate the unburnt clods; and the ashes are used immediately, or stored under cover till they are wanted. The quantity usually put on an acre of young clover is fifteen or twenty bushels: the price at Newbury is fourpence a bushel.

These ashes have been analysed by Sir H. Davy, and found to contain,—oxide of iron, 48;—gypsum, 32;—and muriate and sulphate of potash, 20 per cent. The principal cause of their good effects on green crops and clover-leys is, most probably, the quantity of gypsum which they contain. Between the vale of White Horse and that of the Kennet extends a district of inferior land, partly consisting of chalky hills covered with sheep-walks, and of dales of moderate fertility. The soil is principally calcareous, with variations of clay and gravel.

The chalky hills on the west side of the Thames are separated from the hills in the south-east angle of Oxfordshire by a narrow opening near Goring, through which the river flows: if this opening at any time did not exist, the country above must have had considerable lakes in it, formed by the pent-up waters of the Thames and tributary streams. This may account for the rich alluvial soils found in the vale of White Horse. On the hills which border the Thames there are extensive views over the rich vale of White Horse, and into Oxfordshire; and, in general, the aspect of the country from any con-

siderable hill is that of great richness and variety. No county in England, except Middlesex and the part of Surrey nearest to London, contains so many villas and gentlemen's residences.

The eastern part of the country, or the Windsor Forest district, though less fertile, is not less inviting as to situation. The hills from Egham to Bray are covered with very fine old and young plantations, and form the picturesque scenery of Windsor Great Park. This forms a contrast with the open heath extending to Bagshot, which was divided and inclosed in the year 1813, when the forestal rights were abolished by act of parliament. These rights, if claimed to their full extent, would have been extremely burdensome, and not readily submitted to in these times. While they existed, they had a visible influence on the agriculture of the district, and greatly retarded its progress, in spite of the example of George III.

The parishes contained within the Forest of Windsor were Old Windsor New Windsor, Winkfield, Sunninghill, Binfield, Easthampstead, Sandhurst, Finchampstead, Barkham, Wokingham, Arborfield, and Swallowfield; and parts of Clewer, Bray, and Hurst. The open uninclosed forest in all these parishes amounted to about 24,000 acres, very little of which would repay the expense of cultivation; and much of it remains now in its original state, although divided and inclosed. The allotments given to the crown, under the Inclosure Act of 1813, amounting to above one-fourth of the whole, have been mostly planted.

The soil in the forest district is extremely various: along the Thames, in the parishes of Old and New Windsor, Clewer, and Bray, there are excellent meadows, and some very good arable land, consisting of loam and gravel. To the south, along the hills, which extend at the distance of two or three miles from the river, the soil is a very tenacious clay, better adapted for grass than for corn. The cultivation of it, as arable land, is laborious and expensive, from the necessity of bringing chalk from a distance to correct its cold nature, and neutralise the large portion of iron and saline substances which it contains. The waters found in the land springs, and within a certain depth in this soil, are more or less impregnated with sulphates and muriates of soda and magnesia; so that in many places mineral wells have been discovered, and occasionally much frequented by invalids for their purgative qualities. Of these there are several in Windsor Great Park, St. Leonard's Hill, Winkfield Plain, where a regular pump-room has been fitted up, and in Winkfield Park; this last was formerly in some

repute. The spring at Sunninghill was celebrated in a poem entitled 'Helicorene,' published in 1744. Beyond these clay hills, as we go south from the river, the soil becomes lighter, and gradually changes into a poor light loam, then a sand and gravel, which diminishes in fertility till it becomes the poor thin soil of Bagshot Heath, in which the impregnation of carbonate of iron is so strong as to deposit the iron in the brooks in the form of a rusty powder.

The old inclosures in the forest were chiefly pastures. The arable land was confined to common fields, which were of very inferior value, owing to the right of pasture over them after a certain time of the year; and while the pastures let for nearly the same rent a century ago as they do now, the arable common land let for only one-fourth of its present value; but the pastures enabled the occupier to keep sheep and cattle on the extensive commons, on which was his chief reliance for profit. Since the inclosure of the forest, arable land has improved, and pastures have decreased in value.

CIVIL, MILITARY, AND ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES.

The Atrebatæ, or Atrebatii, are considered to have been the tribe inhabiting this district; their name points them out as a colony of the Atrebatæ ('people of Artois') in Gaul, who were, as

Cæsar informs us, Belgæ, and of Germanic origin. (*De Bell. Gall.* ii. 4.) Mr. Whitaker, and some other modern antiquaries, consider that the Bibroci inhabited the hundred of Bray, and the

Segontiaci a small part of the county bordering on Hampshire. The Bibroci and Segontiaci, and perhaps the Atrebatæ (for some consider these to be the people mentioned by Cæsar under the name of Ancalites), submitted to Cæsar when he crossed the Thames in pursuit of Cassivelaunus, and advanced into the heart of the country. In the division made by the Romans of that part of the island which they reduced to subjection, Berkshire appears to have been included in *Britannia prima*.

Of this remote period Berkshire retains some memorials in the traces of ancient roads and other antiquities. The roads or parts of roads run in different directions. The most marked is a part of that which led from Glevum (Gloucester) to Londinium (London). It enters Berkshire from Wiltshire, not far from Lambourn, and runs south-east to Spinæ (Speen), where it appears to have met another Roman road from Aquæ Solis (Bath) to Londinium (London). From Spinæ its course to Londinium does not appear to have been ascertained, though some traces of it appear on Bagsbot Heath, where it is vulgarly called 'the Devil's Highway.' The traces of other Roman roads are not of any great extent or importance. The Ikeneld Street (of British origin) passed through Berkshire, but its course is disputed. Some consider 'the Ridge Way,' which runs along the edge of the chalk range over East and West Halesley Downs, Cuckhamsley Hills, &c., to be the true Ikeneld Street; while others contend for a line of road under the

same range through or near Blewbury, Wantage, Sparsholt, &c. To the west of Wantage, where this last line is most clearly to be traced, it is called Ickleton Way. (Lysons's *Magna Britannia*; Wise's *Account of some Antiquities in Berkshire*.)

The only Roman station in the county, the site of which has been satisfactorily settled, is Spinæ. The name and the distances agree in identifying it with Speen, a village near Newbury. Yet it is remarkable that no Roman remains appear to have been discovered here—none at least sufficient to show the existence of such a station. Bibracte, mentioned in the twelfth *iter* of Richard of Cirencester, is fixed by Whitaker at Bray; though the distance between Londinium and Bibracte differs so much from that between London and Bray as to occasion great difficulty. Pontes, another Roman station, has been fixed by Horsley (*Britannia Romana*) near Old Windsor, but others prefer Staines, in Middlesex. Calleva or Caleva was thought by Camden to have been Wallingford; but though the remains of Roman antiquity found there point out Wallingford as the site of an important Roman station, yet the situation assigned to Calleva in the Itinerary of Antoninus cannot be made to agree with Wallingford, the Roman name of which is therefore unknown to us. Calleva has also been fixed by conjecture at Coley Manor, near Reading; but Silchester in Hampshire, just on the border of this county, is more generally preferred.

The vallum, which appears to have surrounded the town of Wallingford, was unquestionably a Roman work; at the south-west angle it is very entire for the space of about 270 paces on the south side, and 370 on the west. This vallum is single, and appears to have had a wet ditch, which rendered it very secure.

There are remains of camps in several parts of the county, supposed to have been occupied by the Romans, though some of them are probably of British origin. Uffington Castle, an oval earth work on the summit of White Horse Hill, 700 feet in diameter from east to west, and 500 feet from north to south, is one of these. It is surrounded by a double vallum, or embankment, the inner one high, and commanding an extensive view in every direction, the outer one slighter. Letoome or Sugbury Castle, on Letoome Downs, north-east of Lambourn, is almost circular, has a double vallum, and incloses an area of nearly twenty-six acres. Another camp or earth-work, called Hardwell Camp, is about half a mile north-west of Uffington Castle; it is an entrenchment of square form, where not broken by the steep edge of the hill, surrounded by a double vallum, and in size about 140 paces by 180. Near Little Coxwell, in the neighbourhood of Faringdon, are the remains of a square camp; and at the other extremity of the county there is a strong entrenchment, of irregular form, on Bagsshot Heath, near Easthampstead, 560 paces in length, and 280 in breadth near the

middle: it is supposed to be a Roman work, and is commonly called 'Caesar's Camp.' Remains of works, British or Roman, are also found near the road from Abingdon to Faringdon, five or six miles from the latter (Cherbury Camp), and on Sinodun Hill, near Wittenham, on the Thames. There are circular camps near Ashdown Park, a little way from Lambourn (Ashbury Camp, or Alfred's Castle), and on Badbury Hill, not far from Faringdon; but of the probable origin of the former we have no information—perhaps it was Danish, as also the latter is supposed to be.

Many barrows are found, especially one on the chalk hills north of Lambourn. A curious stone, called 'the blowing stone,' is situate at Kingston Lisle, five miles due north of Lambourn. Of this and the other antiquities of this curious district, a detailed account will be found in its proper place.

When the Saxons became possessed of South Britain, Berkshire was included in the kingdom of the West Saxons. It was partly wrested from them by the powerful and ambitious Offa, king of the Mercians. At what time it returned under the sway of the West Saxon kings we are not aware; probably it was when Egbert elevated Wessex to a permanent superiority over the other parts of the Saxon Octarchy. It formed part of Wessex under the reign of Ethelwulph (son of Egbert), whose youngest son, the great Alfred, was born at Wantage in this county. In the reign of Ethelred I., the brother and immediate predecessor of Alfred, the

Danes invaded Berkshire, and possessed themselves of Reading. Here they were attacked by the West Saxons : in the first engagement the Danes were defeated, but in the second they repulsed their assailants. Four days afterwards at *Eccesdun*, i. e., Ash-tree-hill, a more important battle was fought in which both Ethelred and Alfred were present, and in which the Danes were defeated with great slaughter. The site of this *Eccesdun* has been much disputed. Wise, in his *Letter to Dr. Mead, concerning some Antiquities in Berkshire*, contends for the ridge of the chalk hills extending from Wantage into Wiltshire, and thinks that the White Horse, cut on the hill, is a memorial of the victory. Aston, a village near Wallingford and Ashampstead, a village about equally distant from Wallingford, Newbury, and Reading, have each their partisans. Mr. Turner (*History of the Anglo-Saxons*) inclines to the opinion that Merantune (where shortly afterwards the Saxons sustained a severe defeat, in which Ethelred was mortally wounded) was Moreton, near Wallingford.

In the war with the Danes during the reign of Ethelred II., Berkshire was laid waste with fire and sword. The barbarous invaders burnt Reading, Wallingford, and other places. This was in 1006. At the time of the Norman invasion, William the Conqueror received at Wallingford the submission of the Archbishop Stigand and of the principal barons, before he marched to London.

In the civil war consequent upon the usurpation of Stephen Berkshire was again the seat of war. Brian Fitzcourt, who had come by marriage into possession of Wallingford Castle, early took the side of the Empress Maud ; and his castle afforded her a secure retreat when she fled from Oxford. Faringdon Castle, which was erected by Robert, earl of Gloucester, natural brother of the empress, was taken by Stephen, and so completely demolished, that not a vestige now remains. When John rebelled against his brother, Richard I., he seized Wallingford and Windsor Castles, but they were taken from him again by the barons in the king's interest, and placed in the hands of the queen dowager. The strength of these two fortresses rendered them important, as military stations, in the troubles which took place during the latter part of the reign of John, and during the reign of Henry III. In 1263, Windsor Castle was taken by Simon de Montfort. During this early part of our history, the palace at Old Windsor, or the castle at New Windsor, was the frequent residence of the king.

Of the castles of this period there are few remains except at Windsor.

Of Wallingford Castle, the ditches and earthworks, which are of great extent, and a fragment of a wall are the only remains. Donnington Castle near Newbury is said to have been founded in or near the time of Richard II. It is often asserted that Chaucer the poet was possessor and inhabitant of this place. Camden, who calls it Den-

nington or Dunnington, describes it as a small but elegant castle, on the top of a woody hill, commanding a pleasant prospect, and lighted by windows on every side. It suffered so much, however, during the civil war, that only a gateway with two towers is remaining now. The very sites of the castles at Reading, Newbury, Faringdon, and Brightwell, near Wallingford, are unknown. Aldworth Castle, about five miles south-east of East Ilsley, has scarcely a vestige left: some foundations of walls built with flints have been lately dug up.

There is an old manor-house at Appleton, not far from Oxford, supposed to be of the time of Henry II.; and there are other ancient manor or other dwelling-houses at Witham and Cumnor, near Oxford; Little or East Shefford, between Newbury and Lambourn; Sutton Courtney, near Abingdon; and Ockholt manor-house, near Maidenhead. Ockholt manor-house is an ancient seat of the Norreys family, now a farmhouse. It was built before the Reformation.

During the prevalence of the Roman Catholic faith many religious houses were built and endowed in Berkshire. Tanner's *Notitia Monastica* contains a list of thirty-five religious establishments of all kinds; three of which were numbered at the Reformation among the 'greater monasteries,' and possessed a clear revenue of 200*l.* per annum.* The most important by far of

these establishments were the Benedictine abbeys of Abingdon and Reading. Abingdon Abbey appears to have been originally founded upon a hill called Abendune, about two miles from the present town, nearer Oxford, by Cissa, a West Saxon, governor of great part of Berks and Wilts, under Kentwin, king of the West Saxons. Five years after its foundation this monastery was removed to a place then called Sevekisham or Seovechesham, or Seusham, and since then Abbendon or Abingdon, and enriched by the munificence of Ceadwalla and Ina, kings of Wessex, and other benefactors. The abbey was destroyed by the Danes, and the monks deprived of their chief possessions by Alfred the Great; but the possessions were restored, and the rebuilding of the abbey commenced at least, by Edred, grandson and one of the successors of Alfred. Numerous benefactions increased the wealth of the establishment, and the abbot was mitred. The yearly income at the time of the suppression was 2042*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* gross, or 1876*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* clear. Reading Abbey was also for Benedictines, and the abbot was mitred. This abbey was founded by King Henry I., A.D. 1121, and richly endowed. At the suppression it had 2116*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* gross, or 1938*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* clear yearly income. There are some remains of both these great establishments. Those at Reading consist of the gateway and of some other ruins, which are little more than rude heaps

* It may be mentioned here that Speed's valuation

is that of the gross income; Dugdale's valuation is the clear yearly income.

of stone, all architectural decoration having been defaced. The Abbey Mills are still remaining. At Abingdon some ancient rooms are occupied as a brewery; and the gateway of the abbey is, or was lately, still used as a prison.

At Bustlesham, or Bysham Montague, now Bisham, on the banks of the Thames, nearly opposite Marlow, in Buckinghamshire, was a priory for canons, of the order of St. Austin, founded 1338, by William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury. Their yearly revenue, at the suppression, was 327*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* gross, or 285*l.* 11*s.* clear. Upon the surrender of this monastery to Henry VIII., it was refounded for the Benedictines, its revenue more than doubled, and the abbot mitred; but this new establishment was also suppressed four or five years after. There are no remains of the conventual buildings, except an ancient doorway, now the entrance of a somewhat later edifice, the seat of a branch of the Vansittart family.

Of the minor establishments there are some remains. Of the church of the Grey Friars (Franciscans) at Reading there are considerable remains, now used as a Bridewell: there are also some ruins of the Benedictine monastery at Hurley, between Maidenhead and Henley-upon-Thames, and of the buildings for the priests and clerks of a former collegiate church at Wallingford, though the church itself has been entirely destroyed. The parish church at Shottesbroke, near Maidenhead, once belonged to the college of St. John the Baptist there.

Of the churches of earlier date, Avington deserves mention, from its remarkable specimens of Norman (or as it is sometimes termed Saxon) architecture. The arch which divides the chancel from the nave is a portion of two arches, and each portion being more than a quadrant, the arch has a depending point in the middle. Portions of the Norman style may be observed in St. Nicholas Church at Abingdon, and in other places. Wilford Church, between Newbury and Lambourn, has a Norman round tower, surmounted by a portion in the early English style, and a spire in the decorated English. As some part of the body of the church is in the perpendicular style, this church contains examples of all the different styles of what is usually called Gothic architecture. Great Shefford Church, not far from Welford, has a round tower, surmounted by an octangular story. Shottesbroke Church is a beautiful miniature cross church, with a tower and spire at the intersection. Uffington church, also in the shape of a cross, is large and handsome. St. Lawrence's Church at Reading has a fine tower of chequered flint-work in the perpendicular style.

In the civil war between Charles I. and the Parliament, Berkshire became the scene of several remarkable contests. Windsor was garrisoned by the parliament, and continued in their possession throughout the war. It was once attacked by Prince Rupert, but he was unsuccessful. Wallingford was garrisoned for the king, and continued in

the hands of the Royalists as long as they were capable of making any stand. In 1642, the first year of the war, the king's army gained possession of Reading, the Parliamentary garrison retiring upon their approach, and the county, with the exception of the parts round Windsor, came into the power of the Royalists; but in April, 1643, the Parliamentary forces, under the Earl of Essex and Major-General Shippon, retook Reading by capitulation. In the latter part of the same year was fought the first battle of Newbury, between the Parliamentarians, under the Earl of Essex, and the Royalists, commanded by the king in person. The victory was doubtful; but the action has been rendered memorable by the fall of the accomplished Lord Falkland. The town of Reading fell into the hands of the Royalists soon after, and was garrisoned by them, but evacuated the following year. In 1644, Donnington Castle, which was held for the king by a garrison under Captain John Boys, was besieged by a strong detachment of the opposite party; but though the place was reduced to a heap of ruins,

the gallant defenders held out and the Parliamentarians raised the siege upon the king's approach. Shortly after (viz. 27th October, 1644) a second battle was fought at Newbury, with the same indecisive result which attended the former one. The king commanded his own troops, and the Earls of Essex and Manchester, and Sir William Waller, those of the parliament. No person of note fell in the battle. The army of the Earl of Essex wintered this year in the county, at Abingdon, Reading, &c. The rest of the war was not marked by any great event. In 1645 Sir Stephen Hawkins made an unsuccessful attempt on the Parliamentary garrison at Abingdon; and Cromwell failed in an attack upon Faringdon, but fought a successful skirmish at Radcot Bridge in that neighbourhood, and took 200 prisoners. In 1646 Prince Rupert attacked Abingdon again, but with success.

A slight skirmish occurred at Reading in 1688, and a trifling affair at Twyford, between Reading and Maidenhead. These were the only actions which occurred during the civil war by which that year was distinguished.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY.

THE general state of agriculture in Berkshire is neither of the most improved kind, nor yet to be greatly found fault with. The number of rich proprietors who hold land to some extent in their own hands is considerable. They employ intelligent bailiffs, and improved

modes of cultivation are readily tried by them. The most perfect machines and implements may be found on their farms, and everything new finds some person ready to give it a trial; but there are many obstacles to their general adoption. Old methods keep a certain hold

of practical men, and it is very fortunate that it is so ; for no new method should be generally adopted till long experience has proved its utility. The two extremes, of an obstinate adherence to a decidedly bad system, and an incautious adoption of new inventions are equally unreasonable.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

The system generally adopted throughout the county by intelligent farmers is only a modification of the ancient triennial rotation. The basis is a clean fallow, for which turnips are substituted on the light soils : then two or three crops of corn, with an alternation of clover, tares, or beans between them, which are considered as less exhausting. The nature of the crops and the recurrence of the fallows depend on the nature of the land, on the seasons, and also on the care with which the first fallow has been cleaned, and the crops have been weeded or hoed. It is the appearance of weeds that gives notice of the necessity of a fallow. A good rotation strictly adhered to would be better for general adoption ; and a more extensive cultivation of artificial grasses would keep more live stock, and make more manure. In the rich soils of the Vale great crops of corn are frequently obtained with little trouble, and this always makes careless farmers. They know the advantage of manure, and will spare no expense to purchase it, but the real secret of agriculture is to make it at home and at the least expense, which can only be done by means of live stock, and raising food for cattle.

SIZE OF FARMS.

There are in Berkshire a great many small proprietors, or yeomen, who cultivate their own farms, consisting of forty, fifty, or eighty acres. They live frugally, and the times do not much affect them ; but they have no inclination to try new schemes ; the old methods satisfy them ; and if they can live and pay their way they are contented. The number of occupiers employing labourers is 1711, and there are 458 occupiers who usually perform the work of their farms with the assistance of their own families. The size of the farms in Berkshire varies considerably : in the chalky districts they are large—some containing a thousand acres ; but in the richer soils they are mostly from one hundred to four hundred acres : in the forest district they are in general of small extent. Arable land lets from 10*s.*, and even less, to 2*l.* per acre ; the average may be about 25*s.* ; upland meadows from 1*l.* to 2*l.*, and along the rivers 2*l.* to 3*l.* ; irrigated meadows 4*l.* to 5*l.* Farm out-buildings are chiefly thatched and sided with weather-boarding.

IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY.

The old implements of husbandry have been much improved of late years. The heavy Berkshire plough, drawn by four or five horses in a line, has given place to the lighter Scotch and Norfolk ploughs with two horses abreast, or in very wet and stiff soils with three in a line ; more are seldom used, except to break up grass land, or when the ploughing has been deferred till the ground is

very hard. Improved agricultural instruments are manufactured at Newbury and at Reading. Drilling machines on the most improved principle, and on Cook's plan, are made at Hook in Hampshire, and pretty generally dispersed through Berkshire. The introduction of these and other improved instruments has been much encouraged by the example of King George III. and the late Duke of Gloucester, whose farming establishment at Rapleys, near Bagshot Park, was on the most improved principles. Drilling the seed is becoming more general than it used to be; and several professional drillmen find it a profitable employment of a small capital to purchase the most improved machines, with which they drill the seed for the smaller farmers, who cannot afford such expensive implements. The farmer finds the horses and a man to drive them, and sends the drill to its next destination when his corn is drilled. The price paid for the use of the drilling machine is from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per acre, with food for the drillman, who is the proprietor of the drill, or his servant. They drill about ten or twelve acres in a day, with two horses and two men. This division of labour, which is a certain sign of improvement, is chiefly found in the best cultivated districts, as in Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, where there are still many small farms.

Threshing machines were common in many parts of the county, both fixed and moveable; but during the disturbances in 1831 many of them were de-

stroyed, and the corn is now chiefly threshed by hand, there being always a superabundance of agricultural labourers.

MARKET GARDENS.

Near Reading there are considerable garden grounds, the soil being deep and good, and the produce coming earlier to maturity than in any other part of the county. The onions, and especially the asparagus, of Reading, are remarkably fine, and in great demand in the season. Orchards are not very numerous, and fewer than they were at one time, when cider was a more common beverage of the farmer. The apples which grow in the Vale, where there are some good orchards, are mostly sent to London. About Wantage are some cherry orchards, the produce of which is great in good years, but it is a very precarious crop.

COPPICES AND OSIERIES.

The coppices in general are valuable; and where water-carriage is near, which is the case in almost every part of the county, the produce is sent to London, in the shape of hoops, broomsticks, and other rough manufactures. They are usually cut every ten years, and when well managed produce from 10*l.* to 15*l.* per acre, at every cutting.

Along the Thames, and in the low islands which are frequently covered with water, there are numerous osier beds, which are cut every year to make baskets, and are considered as a very valuable property.

CATTLE, &c.

There is no peculiar breed of cattle indigenous in Berkshire, and those generally met with are imported from Devonshire, Herefordshire, and Yorkshire. The Glamorganshire cows are in considerable repute in some districts; but the breeds are much mixed and crossed, and not always with the greatest attention or judgment. Alderney cows, which are annually imported, are very common for the supply of butter and cream in gentlemen's families. Some very good cows have been produced by crosses of Alderneys with larger breeds. Oxen are not generally used in agriculture, although a few teams are kept on some large farms, and the work of the king's Norfolk farm in Windsor Park was at one time entirely done by oxen. They are still employed in carting, rolling, and drawing timber in the park, where the sod being soft for their feet, they can work without being shod. They are worked four at a time, and only five days in the week, and in this manner stand their work well.

A considerable number of horses are bred in Berkshire, chiefly of the cart kind; and many colts are brought young from Northamptonshire, and kept for two or three years with gentle work. They are then sent to London as dray horses, and in general obtain very good prices. In this manner horses used in husbandry, instead of losing in value, are often a source of greater profit than oxen worked two or three years, and then fatted off.

No great quantity of fat cattle is sent from Berkshire to London. In the Vale of White Horse there are many dairies, and the cheese made here is known in the London market under the name of single and double Gloucester, and North Wiltshire. In the eastern part of the county a good many calves are suckled, and are found on the whole more profitable than butter or cheese, and attended with much less trouble: but the chief advantage of calves is the addition which they make to the dung of the yard, when they have a liberal allowance of straw often renewed. This also constitutes the chief profit of keeping pigs.

The breed of pigs in Berkshire is one of the best in England. They are not of a very large size, although many, fattened at two years old, weigh twenty score when killed, and some even more. The most common weight is from twelve to fifteen score: the bone is small, and they fatten at an early age and on little food—two important qualities. The true Berkshire breed is black with white spots, but some are quite white: their snouts are short, jowls thick, and their ears stand up. A mixed breed, produced by crossing the Berkshire with the Chinese and Neapolitan breeds, possesses improved qualities, although rather susceptible of cold from being nearly without hair; but they are superior to most breeds for getting rapidly fat, and keeping in excellent condition on pasture, with very little additional food. G. H. Crutchley, Esq., of Sunning-hill Park, has a choice breed of this

kind ; and most of the cottagers' pigs in the Forest district are of a superior description. Bacon is the principal animal food of the labourers, and they are good judges of its qualities.

The Berkshire sheep, called the *rot*, was a large polled sheep, with coarse wool, useful for the fold on cold clay soils, but coarse in the carcase. It is now almost superseded by an improved breed produced by crosses from the old sheep and the Leicesters, and by the South Down, which are now the favourite breeds. Some of the Cotswold sheep, crossed with the Leicester, produce a large sheep, which gets very fat, and carries a heavy fleece of long wool : some of these were lately purchased to send to Belgium, to improve the sheep in that country. Merinos were introduced by George III., who had a flock from Spain, and were at first in great request, on account of the fineness of their wool ; but they have not proved a profitable stock, owing perhaps to want of proper management, and chiefly because they did not produce so good car-

cases for the butcher, which is now the chief profit of the sheep. In Saxony the wool is the principal object ; and so much attention has been paid to the Spanish flocks transplanted into that country, that their wool exceeds the original Spanish wool in fineness. Before the inclosure of Windsor Forest there was a breed of small ragged-looking sheep, with a light fleece of tolerably good short wool, called the heath sheep, which, when fatted at three or four years old, produced the fine flavoured Bagshot mutton, much prized by gourmands. These sheep were bred and kept in the wastes of the forest, and sent annually in large flocks into Buckinghamshire to be folded on the fallows. Not being well attended to, many of them died ; and sometimes, in a wet spring, whole flocks were swept off by the rot ; they cost the proprietor little, and produced in general but small profit : they may still be seen, although in diminished numbers, on the heaths of Surrey and Hampshire which are still uninclosed.

POLITICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

CIVIL DIVISIONS.

WHEN the Domesday Survey was made Berkshire was divided into twenty-two hundreds ; Wallingford and Windsor were assessed separately. The hundreds have since been reduced to twenty, of which eleven retain their ancient names under a somewhat modernised

form. An attempt was made by Lord Chancellor Clarendon to transfer to Berkshire that part of the parish of Wokingham which is part of Wiltshire, although surrounded by Berks ; but the bill was rejected. A modern attempt (A. D. 1825) failed in like manner. (*Rickman, Preface to Population Re-*

turns.) We give the ancient hundreds, placing in a line with them the modern hundreds, with which they for the most part coincide, and also the part of the county in which they are situated. N. north; S. south, &c.; C. central.

Ancient.	Modern.
Benes, or Beners	Barnesh, or Beyn-hurst, E.
Bitherie (Blewbury.)	Moreton, N.E.
Burchederie, or Burcheldeberie, (Bucklebury)	Faircross, C. and S. and Reading, N.E.
Bray	Bray, E.
Cerledone	Charlton, S., Sonning, or Sunning, E., Wargrave, E.
Cheneberie, } united	Kintbury-Eagle, C. and S.W.
Eglei, Helitesford, or Healtiesford.	Moreton, N.E., and Cookham, S.E.
Gamesfel	Ganfield, N.W.
Hilleslau	Shrivenham, N.W.
Hornimere	Horner, N.
Lamborne, or Lambourn	Lambourn, W.
Marcham (Marcham)	Ock, N. and N.E.
Machededorne	Compton, C., and Faircross C., and S.
Redinges or Redinges	Reading, & Theale, N.E.
Riplesmere	Ripplesmere, and Wargrave, E.
Rosberg	Faircross, C. and S.
Scrivenham, or Shrivenham	Shrivenham, N.W.
Sutton (Sutton)	Ock, or Oke, N. and N.E.
Tacebam (Thatcham)	Faircross, C. and S., and Reading N.E.
Wanting, or Wanting.	Wantage, C.
Wifol	Faringdon, N.W., and Shrivenham E.

Camden gives the number of parishes

in the county at 140; Lysons gives them at 148. By a comparison of the lists contained in the population returns with the best maps, the number may be thus stated:—Parishes wholly in Berks, 142; parishes partly in other counties, but which have either the church or the principal group of houses in Berkshire, and may be therefore reckoned in that county, 9; parishes partly included in Berks, but chiefly in other counties, 5; total, 156. The parishes which, though partly in other counties may be most properly reckoned in Berkshire, are Sunning, Langford, and Shilton (partly in Oxfordshire), and Coleshill, Hungerford, Hurst (parochial chapelry), Shalbourn, Shinfield, and Wokingham (partly in Wilts). The parishes which rather belong to other counties are Great Barrington, (chiefly in Gloucestershire), St. Aldate's (chiefly in the city of Oxford). Strathfieldsay (chiefly in Hants), and Inglesham and Swallowfield (chiefly in Wilts). The number of places making returns, under the census of 1831, was 222.

The number of vicarages is considerable; in Lysons's *Magna Britannia*, where the parishes are given at 148, the number of vicarages is given at 67. The county is wholly in the diocese of Salisbury, and in the ecclesiastical province of Canterbury, and forms an archdeaconry by itself: the archdeacon takes his title from the county. It is divided into four rural deaneries—Abingdon, Newbury, Reading, and Wallingford. The following is a Table of the value of the Livings, as exhibited in the Report

of the "Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Ecclesiastical Revenues," 1835 :—

	£.
Abingdon, St. Helen's, V. with St. Nicholas, R.	225
Aldermaston, V.	*
Appleton, R.	307
Arborfield, R.	345
Ardington, V.	*
Ashbury, V.	375
Aston Tirrold, R.	233
Avington, R.	300
Barkham, R.	350
Basildon, V., with Ashampstead, C.	255
Beeton, V.	126
Beenham Valence, V.	211
Binfield, R.	628
Bisham, V.	156
Bishopston, V.	208
Bishopstone, R. and V.	806
Bishopstrow, R.	220
Blakeland, R.	160
Blewbury, V., with Aston Upthorpe, C., and Upton, C.	161
Bradfield, R.	788
Bray, V.	500
Bright Waltham, R.	700
Brightwell, R.	674
Brimpton, V.	*
Buckland, V.	291
Bucklebury, V., with Marlston, C.	453
Burghfield, R.	810
Busecot, R.	450
Catmere, R.	180
Chaddleworth, V.	272
Chalfield, R.	162
Charlton, V.	100
Chieveley, V., with Oare, C., Winterbourne, C., and Leckhampstead, C.	1,174
Childrey, R.	604
Chilton, R.	400
Cholsey, V., with Moulsoford, C.	358
Clewer, R.	468
Compton, V.	330
Compton Bassett, R.	497
Compton Beauchamp, R.	333
Cookham, V.	300

* No Return.

	£.
Denchworth, V.	130
Dudcote, R.	397
Easton Hastings, R.	280
Enborne, R.	416
Englefield, R.	303
Farnborough, R.	291
Faringdon, Great, V., with Little Coxwell, C.	265
Finchampstead, R.	500
Frilsham, R.	131
Fyfield, P. C.	125
Garston, East, V.	239
Grove in Wantage, P. C.	30
Hagborn, V.	165
Hampstead, East, R.	478
Hampstead Norris, V.	400
Hampstead Marshall, R.	269
Hanney, V., with Lyford, C.	205
Halford, R.	322
Hendred, East, R.	544
Hendred, West, V.	613
Hinksey, North, P. C.	105
Hinksey, South, P. C. with Wootton, C.	183
Hinton Waldrist, R.	370
Hurley, V.	163
Illey, East, R.	645
Illey, West, R.	537
Inkpen, R.	520
Kingston Bagpuze, R.	298
Kintbury, V.	607
Lambourn, V.	104
Letcomb Bassett, R.	215
Letcomb Regis, V., with East Challow, C.	200
Lockinge, East, R.	400
Longworth, R., with Charney, C.	682
Maidenhead, St. Andrew and St. Mary, C.	172
Mareham, V., with Garford, C.	455
Milton, R.	*
Moreton, North, V.	83
Moreton, South, R.	199
Newbury, R.	455
Overton, V., with Fyfield, V., and Alton Priors, C.	319
Padworth, R.	240
Pangbourn, R.	430

* No Return.

	£.
Peasemore, R.	950
Prince's Harwell, V.	220
Porley, R.	281
Pusey, R.	163
Reading, St. Giles, V.	522
Reading, St. Lawrence, V.	276
Reading, St. Mary, V.	661
Remenham, R.	337
Romcomb, P. C.	30
Sandhurst, P. C.	118
Shalbourne, V.	271
Shaw, R.	474
Shefford, East, R.	400
Shefford, West, R.	856
Shellingford, R.	497
Shrivenham, V., with Lougcut, C.	676
Soaning	451
Sparsholt, V., with Kingston Lisle, C.	363
Speen, V., with Speenhamland, C.	424
Stanford Dingley, R.	275
Stanford-in-the-Vale, with Goosey, C.	337
Stratfield Mortimer, V.	176
Sreatley, V.	276
Sulham, R.	*
Sulhampstead Abbott's, R. with Sulhampstead Bannister, R.	600
Sunninghill, V.	328
Sunningwell, R., with Kennington, C.	318
Sutton Courtney, V., with Appleford, C.	148
Thatcham, V., with Greenham, C., and Midgham, C.	420
Tidmarsh, R.	223
Tilehurst, V., with Theale, C.	*
Tubney, R.	120
Uffington, V., with Woolstone, C., and Baulking, C.	369
Upton Nervlet, R.	426
Wallingford, St. Leonard's, R., with Sotewell, C.	153
Wallingford, St. Mary, R.	137
Wallingford, St. Peter, R.	100
Waltham, St. Lawrence, V.	211
Wantage, V.	503
Warfield, V.	150
Wargrave, V.	226
Wasing, R.	100

* No Return.

	£.
Welford, R., with Wickham, C.	1,364
Windsor, New, V.	400
Windsor, Old, V.	270
Winkfield, V.	343
Wittenham, Earl's, V.	166
Wittenham, Little, R.	400
Wokingham, P. C.	126
Woodhay, West, R.	260
Woolhampton, R.	202
Wytham, R.	306
Yattendon, R.	384

Berkshire is in the Oxford circuit : Reading and Abingdon are the assize towns. The Lent or Spring assizes are held at Reading, the Summer assizes at Abingdon. The quarter sessions for the county are held as follow : Epiphany at Reading, Easter at Newbury, Hilary at Abingdon, and Michaelmas either at Abingdon or Reading, as the magistrates shall determine. There are six divisions of petty sessions, and in 1831 there were 123 acting county magistrates.

Nine members are returned to parliament from Berkshire—three for the county itself, two each for Reading and New Windsor, and one each for Abingdon and Wallingford. The number of county electors in 1836 was 5632, of whom 4779 voted at the general election in 1837 ; the number of electors in each hundred being as follows :—

Beynhurst	137
Bray	235
Charlton	233
Compton	104
Cookham	325
Faircross	726*
Faringdon	184
Ganfild	160
Horner	244†

* Bright-Waltham omitted. † One parish omitted.

Kentbury Eagle . . .	408
Lambourn	123
Moreton	340
Ock	291*
Reading	754
Ripplesmere	391
Shrivenham	202
Sonning	269
Theale	160†
Wantage	385
Wargrave	172

The only change in the number of members made by the Reform Bill was to reduce the members for Wallingford from two to one, for Abingdon previously returned only one, and to give one additional county member. The county members are nominated at Abingdon, and the poll for the county is taken at Reading, Abingdon, Newbury, Wantage, Wokingham, Maidenhead, Great Faringdon, and East Ilsley. Abingdon was the place where the poll was taken in case of a contest before the Reform Bill. Abingdon, Maidenhead, Newbury, Reading, Wallingford, and Windsor are incorporated municipal boroughs.

POPULATION AND OCCUPATIONS.

The absolute population of Berkshire, at each of the four enumerations made in this century was :—

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Incr. per Cent.
1801	52,821	56,394	109,215	
1811	57,360	60,917	118,277	8.39
1821	65,546	66,431	131,977	11.58
1831	72,553	72,826	145,369	10.08

Showing an increase between the first and last enumerations of 36,174 persons, or 33 per cent. This is considerably below the rate of increase in the whole of England, which amounted, in the

same period, to 57 per cent. The population is 195 per square mile, while the average for the whole of England is 259. The density of the population in Hants, Bucks, Norfolk and Suffolk is nearly the same as in Berks, these counties varying only from 193 to 198 per square mile.

The ages of the population in the county, so far as the same could be ascertained in 1821, were as follow. The experiment proved less successful in this than in some other counties, the ages of 88 only in 100 having been returned: in the adjoining county of Bucks the return comprised more than 98 persons out of 100.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	8,908	8,472	17,380
5 to 10	8,566	8,014	16,580
10 „ 15	7,318	6,807	14,125
15 „ 20	6,086	5,826	11,912
20 „ 30	8,837	9,800	18,637
30 „ 40	6,795	7,316	14,111
40 „ 50	5,746	5,983	11,723
50 „ 60	4,366	4,362	8,728
60 „ 70	3,030	3,133	6,163
70 „ 80	1,719	1,712	3,431
80 „ 90	468	533	1,000
90 „ 100	30	61	71
100 years and upwards	1	2	3
	61,854	62,019	123,873

The number of persons between the ages of 20 and 50, for the whole of England, is 3708 out of 10,000; in Berkshire out of the same number the proportion is 3590. A considerable number of the population resort for employment to London and other places out of the county, but chiefly to the metropolis, where the population between the ages of 20 and 50 is 4522 out of 10,000 persons. Berkshire being a more wealthy county than some of those situated within the same distance

* Lyford omitted. † Padworth and Wokingham omitted.

of London, the number of persons who leave it in search of employment is not so great. For example, there are 2432 more male and female servants in Berkshire than in Bucks, although the population of the latter county is rather larger; and the number of males in the latter county in 1821, whose ages were between 20 and 50, was only 3137 out of 10,000.

Berkshire is an agricultural county, and ranks in this respect fourteenth among the counties of England. At the census of 1831 it was found that among 37,084 males, twenty years of age and upwards, residing within the county, no more than 521 were employed in manufactures, or in making manufacturing machinery. Out of this number, nearly 300 were employed in making mats and sacking at Abingdon, and sail-cloth there and elsewhere; about 100 were engaged in silk manufactures at Reading and Newbury, and 25 in copper-mills at Bisham. The proportions in which the inhabitants of the county were divided into the leading classes of employment at the enumerations of 1811, 1821, and 1831, were as follow:—

	1811.	1821.	1831.
Agriculture (families in 100)	53.5	53.3	45.2
Trade, manufactures, &c.	31.3	31.7	31.8
Other classes	15.2	15	23

The following is an abstract of the Population Returns for the county: the population of the larger places

will be noticed in their particular descriptions:—

Houses.

Inhabited	28,032
Families	31,081
Building	234
Uninhabited	975

Occupations.

Families chiefly employed in agriculture	14,047
" " trade, manufactures and handicraft	9,884
All other families not comprised in the two preceding classes	7,150

Persons.

Males	72,553
Females	72,836
Total of Persons	145,389
Males twenty years of age	37,084

Agriculture.

Occupiers employing labourers	1711
" not employing labourers	458
Labourers employed in Agriculture	14,802

Other Occupations.

Employed in manufacture, or in making manufacturing machinery	521
Employed in retail trade, or in handicraft as masters or workmen	10,758
Capitalists, bankers, professional and other educated men	1,447
Labourers employed in labour, not agricultural	3708
Other males twenty years of age (except servants)	2224
Male servants, twenty years of age	1455
" under twenty years of age	810
Female servants	6022

CIVIC ECONOMY.

LOCAL TAXATION AND EXPENDITURE.

The sum raised by assessment for the poor's rate, county rate, and other local purposes in the year ending 25th March, 1833, amounted to 136,400*l.*: it was levied upon the following description of property:—

On land	£101,749 13
„ Dwelling-houses . .	29,861 4
„ Mills, factories, &c. .	3,298 11
„ Manorial profits, navigation, &c	1,490 12
	<hr/>
	£136,400 0

The valuation for the assessment of the county rate is 707,827*l.*: in 1815, the county was assessed under the property-tax as follows:—Real Property at 720,630*l.*, annual value; Profits of Trade &c. 299,992*l.* The amount of real property assessed under each head was:—Land, 502,096*l.*; Houses, 140,211*l.*; Tithes, 67,511*l.*; Manors, 209*l.*; Fines, 5812*l.*; Profit of Iron works, &c., 4506*l.*; Miscellaneous, 285*l.*

The county assessment for the year ending 25th March, 1838, amounted to 73,306*l.*, and the expenditure for the same period amounting to 76,187*l.*, was on account of the following objects:—

Relief and maintenance of the poor, including 1145 <i>l.</i> for medical relief . . .	£59,986
Removal of paupers, Law charges, &c.,	1,693
Payments for or towards the County rates	10,966
Fees to Clergymen and Registrars under Registration Act	173
Registrars' offices, books and forms, ditto.	140
Payments under Parochial Assessments Act	265
Ditto for all other purposes	3,665
	<hr/>
	£76,187

The county expenditure for various purposes, exclusive of the relief of the

poor, was as follows in 1833, the latest time to which any statement has been given:—

Bridges and roads leading to them	£986
Gaols	2090
Expenses of criminal trials at quart. sess.	631
„ „ circuits	657
„ coroners	128
„ shire halls	13
„ lunatic asylums	34
„ printing, bailiff, marshal, &c.	359
„ conveying prisoners to gaol	178
„ clerk of assize	41
„ conveying vagrants . . .	997

In 1792 the expenditure amounted to 1874*l.*; in 1802, to 3033*l.*; in 1812, to 6776*l.*; in 1822, to 8475*l.*; in 1832, to 9560*l.* The sum levied for county rate in 1833 was 11,207*l.* 18*s.* The accounts are examined on the first day of quarter sessions in the grand jury room, adjoining to the court, and from this examination no person is excluded.

PAUPERISM.

Perhaps no county is more famous in the annals of pauperism than Berkshire. At Speenhamland, on the 6th of May, 1795, was framed the original Bread Table, often called by paupers the “Speenhamland Act of Parliament.” By this table “the parish allowance was systematically substituted for the wages of labour; the industrious man was brought down to the same level with him that was content to eat the bread of idleness; independence was discouraged, improvidence rewarded, and the labouring class was proclaimed free of

those moral restraints which act so beneficially on all other classes of the community."* The table professed to "show at one view what should be the weekly income of the industrious poor." Thus, "when the gallon loaf of second flour, weighing 8lbs. 11oz., shall cost 1s., then every poor and industrious man shall have for his own support 3s. weekly, either procured by his own or his family's labour, or an allowance from the poor's rates; and for the support of his wife and every other of his family, 1s. 6d." According to the table, on every penny which the loaf rose above 1s. the sum of 3d. was allowed to the man, and 1d. to every other member of his family. But if the most disastrous plan in connexion with the welfare of the poor which was ever acted upon in any country originated in Berkshire, the parishes of Cookham, Swallowfield, and Leckhamstead in the same county, offered also the first examples of the process of dispauperising those whom the Speenhamland Bread Table had both morally and physically degraded. The principles acted upon at Cookham under the judicious and zealous management of the Rev. Mr. Whately, led to the gradual elevation of the population in that parish, while in surrounding parishes, in which a contrary system was followed, the labourers every year sunk deeper into the slough of pauperism. The plan so successfully adopted at Cookham indicated the methods to be pursued when the legisla-

ture resolved upon affecting the work of regeneration on a large scale. The first Poor Law Union formed in England was the Abingdon Union, declared 1st January, 1835.

The sums expended for the relief of the poor in Berkshire at the four decenary years of enumeration within the present century were very much greater in proportion than for the whole of England, as the following table will show:—

	Expended for Relief.	Average for each Inhabitant.		England & Wales.	
		Berks.			
	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1801	81,994	15	0	9	1
1811	160,873	27	2	13	1
1821	104,338	15	9	10	7
1831	115,070	15	10	9	9

In the course of the year 1835 twelve unions were formed in the county, each of the following places being the centre of a Union: Abingdon, Bradfield, Cookham, Easthampstead, Faringdon, Hungerford, Newbury, Reading, Wallingford, Wantage, Windsor, Wokingham; and by the end of the parochial year 1838 (March 25th), a saving of 40,372*l.* or 54 per cent. had been effected in the expenditure, without the claims of the indigent having been neglected, and with very valuable effects upon the labourers. There is not a single parish in the county which is not included in a Poor Law Union. Some of the Berkshire Unions comprise parishes in the adjoining counties. The following table shows the area and population of each Union; the average annual expenditure of the three years preceding its formation, and the sum expended in the year ending 25th March, 1837.

* First Annual Report of the Poor Law Commissioners.

Name of Union.	No. of Parishes.	Area in eq. Miles.	Population in 1831.	Average Expend. of the years 1832-34.	Expenditure of Year ending 25th March, 1837.
Abingdon . . .	88	77	16,634	£ 6,793	£ 4,467
Bradfield . . .	29	106	14,682	12,753	7,898
Cookham . . .	7	48	10,517	3,946	3,139
Easthampstead . .	5	43	6,980	2,700	1,990
Faringdon . . .	31	101	14,236	13,124	6,997
Hungerford . . .	20	150	18,666	16,073	8,440
Newbury . . .	18	72	19,054	15,756	9,246
Reading . . .	3	8	16,042	8,179	5,268
Wallingford . . .	28	68	12,219	13,017	6,805
Wantage . . .	33	128	15,917	17,120	9,150
Windsor . . .	6	35	15,986	8,368	5,119
Wokingham . . .	16	67	11,889	8,153	4,763

If the process of dispauperising proceed as rapidly as it has hitherto done, Berkshire will, in the course of a few years, be assimilated to those parts of England where a "Bread Table" and the evils of the allowance system have been practically unknown. The expenditure for the relief of the poor in Berkshire in the years 1834-5-6-7, and the sums expended perhead, in reference to the population of 1831, both in Berkshire, and in England and Wales, were as under:—

Years.	Expended for Relief. £.	Average for each Inhabitant.	
		Berks. s. d.	England & Wales. s. d.
1834	100,163	13 9	9 1
1835	86,435	11 11	7 11
1836	65,343	9 0	6 9
1837	56,618	7 9	5 1

CRIME.

The number of persons charged with the commission of criminal offences in Berkshire in the three-septennial periods ending with 1820, 1827, and 1834 were 912, 1113 and 1505 respectively, being

an average of 130 annually in the first period of 159 in the second period, and of 215 in the last septennial. In the following years the numbers were as under:—

	1824.	1825.	1826.	1827.	1828.	1829.
Committed .	250	189	305	270	290	324
Convicted ..	87	55	68	62	101	211
Acquitted...	163	134	137	108	189	113

The proportion of criminal offenders to the population was about 1 in 600, which is lower than the proportion for the whole of England. The proportion convicted was 1 in 3 for the above years, while in the four years ending 1837 the proportion for England and Wales was 2 in 7. The increase in the number of offenders must not be taken absolutely as a proof of the increase of crime, as the greater efficiency of the police and the greater facilities in criminal proceedings may have led to apprehensions and prosecutions which under other circumstances would not have occurred. The degree of instruction which the 290 persons committed in 1838 had received

was ascertained, with the exception of 11 individuals; and it appeared that of the remaining 279, only 17 could read and write well; 160 could read and write imperfectly, that is, scarcely to a sufficient extent to be practically useful, and 102 could not read or write at all. The offences with which the above 290 persons were charged do not testify unfavourably to the character of the population of Berkshire, offences against the person being fewer in proportion than for the whole of England and Wales; but pilfering and acts of petty larceny appear to be the most prevalent cases which come under the cognizance of the law within the county. In 1838 there were 194 persons charged with simple larceny out of 290, the total number committed for offences of every class.

EDUCATION.

According to returns made by order of the House of Commons in 1833, the number of daily schools in Berkshire was 511, at which 16,574 children received instruction. In this enumeration 23 infant schools are included which were attended by 693 children. There were also 225 Sunday schools, attended by 14,113 children. There are no means for ascertaining the number of scholars who attended both Sunday and daily schools, but even admitting that no duplicate return of children was made, and that the number of children receiving instruction was, as appears from the Return, 30,687, there would remain about 20,900 children from the ages of

2 to 15 who were not attending any school. This proportion, however, is about the average of many other counties. Seventy-three boarding schools were included in the 511 daily schools. Lending libraries were attached to 21 of the common day and Sunday schools.

SAVINGS' BANKS.

There are ten savings' banks within the county, at Abingdon, Faringdon, Hungerford, Maidenhead, Newbury, Reading, Twyford, Wantage, Windsor, and Wokingham. The number of depositors and amount of deposits on the 20th November, 1834-5-6-7-8 were respectively as follow:—

Number of depositors:—

1834.	1835.	1836.	1837.	1838.
7,037	8,347	8,889	9,133	9,639

Amount of deposits:—

£260,425	266,872	276,971	285,537	301,980
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On the 20th November, 1837, the accounts in the different savings' banks of the county stood as follows:—

	Depositors.	Deposits.
Not exceeding £20	5089	37,192
50	2327	72,393
100	1073	75,226
150	386	47,536
200	186	32,485
Above 200	72	20,705
Total . . .	9133	285,537

The number of depositors of sums of £20 and under in each 1000 of the population of Berkshire in 1835 was 31, the numbers for the same amount of population in all other parts of England being 18: there were 57 depositors of every class in Berkshire to 1000 of the population, the proportion for England being 35.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AND TRAFFIC.

ROADS.

The principal roads which pass through Berkshire are those from London to Bath and Oxford. Both these enter the county at Maidenhead, a little beyond which they separate, the Oxford road running nearly due west to Henley, where it leaves the county; and the Bath road running south-west to Reading. There are two other roads from London to Reading, both of which pass through Egham in Surrey, and, separating there, run nearly parallel to each other, until they reunite a few miles before they reach Reading. From this town the Bath road passes through Newbury and Hungerford, just after which it enters Wiltshire. The principal other roads are one from London to Cirencester, which, branching off from the Oxford road near Nettlebed in Oxfordshire, runs through Wallingford and Wantage: another road to Cirencester, which, branching off from the Oxford road at Dorchester (Oxfordshire), runs through Abingdon, and uniting with the first-mentioned road at Faringdon, crosses the Thames at St. John's Bridge, near Lechlade, into Gloucestershire: one from Oxford to Kingsclere and Whitchurch (Hants), and so to Winchester and Southampton, which, entering Berkshire near Wallingford, runs through it in a southern direction into Hampshire, without passing through any market-town except Wallingford: one

from Oxford by Abingdon and East Isley to Newbury, from which town two branches run, one to Andover (Hants) and the other to Whitchurch (Hants); two from Oxford to Hungerford, one by Wantage, and one by Abingdon; one from Lambourn to Newbury, and one from Reading to Basingstoke in Hampshire. There is a road from Reading to Wallingford which nearly follows the winding of the Thames. From Wallingford to Abingdon there is a road which in no instance deviates far from the Thames: a short distance from Wallingford it crosses the river into Oxfordshire, and does not re-enter Berkshire until it recrosses the Thames just before it reaches Abingdon. The river may be crossed at many points where ferries are established. These ferries are indicated on the map.

The turnpike roads in Berkshire are good, as are also the parochial roads in the south-eastern part, especially about Reading. The parochial roads in the Vale of White Horse are deep and miry, and in winter almost impassable.

The number of turnpike trusts in the county in 1829 was twenty, having 319 miles of road under their charge, the annual income of which, derived from tolls and parish compositions, amounted to 15,388*l.* and the annual outlay for repairs and management was 15,092*l.* In 1835 several of the trusts having been consolidated, there were fifteen instead

twenty; the annual income amounted to 19,640*l.*, including 15,819*l.* from tolls alone; and the total expenditure was 18,609*l.*, including 2473*l.* interest on debt, which amounted to 55,865*l.*

RAILWAY.

The Great Western Railway from London to Bath and Bristol, which has its London terminus at Paddington, after passing through or near Acton, Ealing, Hanwell, Southall, Slough and Salthill, enters Berkshire a few hundred yards south of Maidenhead by a viaduct over the Thames. From Maidenhead it proceeds nearly in a direct line through Twyford to Reading; thence in a direction W.N.W., to Basilden, where it crosses the Thames into Oxfordshire; it again enters Berkshire north of Moulsoford, passes between North and South Moreton, past Dudcot on the north, and proceeds through Steventon, afterwards crossing the Berks and Wilts canal about two miles north of Wantage, again crosses the same canal on the verge of the county, and enters Wiltshire between Highworth and Swindon, about 76 miles from London. The length of the Great Western line of railway which passes through Berkshire is about 50 miles. The summit level is at Swindon, which is 253 feet higher than the dépôt at Paddington, and 275 feet higher than the terminus at Bristol. From London the road rises gradually to Maidenhead, Reading, and Dudcot, by easy ascents, nowhere exceeding four feet per mile, or one in 320. The expense of the Act of In-

corporation, which was obtained in August, 1835, amounted to the enormous sum of 88,710*l.* For the completion of the necessary works the company was authorised to raise two and a half millions in 100*l.* shares, and further to borrow on mortgage any sum not exceeding one-third of this amount; but the original estimate has been already exceeded by a sum exceeding 2,000,000*l.* The works were commenced in February, 1836. On the 4th of June, 1838, the railway was opened from London to Maidenhead; on the 1st of July, 1839, a further portion of the line was opened to Twyford; in March, 1840, the line was opened to Reading, 35½ miles from London; in June as far as Steventon; and on the 20th of July as far as the Faringdon Road. The number of passengers conveyed is considered highly satisfactory by the company. There are now 17 trains daily each way, except Sunday. The earliest train for passengers from London being 8 A.M., and the latest 5 minutes before 9 P.M. A higher velocity may be maintained on this railroad with safety than perhaps on any other, owing to the width between the rails, which is 7 feet instead of 4 feet 8 inches as on some other lines. The body of the carriage may consequently be safely placed between the wheels instead of above them, and wheels of much larger diameter can be used. At present (July 1840) no period has been fixed upon for opening the whole line. The distances on the line are as follow, beginning at Paddington:—

Stations.	Miles.	Distance from London.
To Ealing	6	6
„ Hanwell	1	7
„ Southall	2	9
„ West Drayton . .	4	13
„ Slough	5	18
„ Maidenhead . . .	4	22
„ Twyford	9	31
„ Reading	4½	35½
„ Pangbourn	5½	41
„ Goring	3	44
„ Moulsoford	3½	47½
„ Stevenston	8½	56
„ Faringdon Road . .	7½	63½

RIVERS.

The navigation of the Thames, though much improved within the last 45 years, is still tedious and uncertain, especially for large boats. Iron steam-boats have recently been introduced. The tide channel may be said to extend as far as Teddington (Tidengtoun) Lock, 18½ miles from London by the river, or 11½ miles direct distance; and above this part of the river there is not unfrequently a scarcity of water. A series of locks obviates this defect in some measure, and the navigation is also facilitated by short cuttings, for the purpose of avoiding shallows or extensive bends. The navigation commences soon after the river touches the border of Berkshire, viz., at St. John's Bridge, near Lechlade, where it is 258 feet above low-water mark at London; from Lechlade to Reading it has a fall of 123 feet, and from Reading to London the fall is 135 feet. Before the opening of the Thames and Severn canal in 1789 the Thames was navigated between Cricklade and Lechlade, a distance

of 9 or 10 miles; but this part of the river is now disused. In Priestley's work on canals, the distances on the Thames by the course of the river are given as follow, beginning at Lechlade:—

	Miles.
To Oxford	28
„ Abingdon	8
„ Wallingford	14
„ Reading	18
„ Henley	9
„ Marlow	9
„ Maidenhead	8
„ Windsor	7

According to Priestley, the navigation between Lechlade and London is 146 miles. The total distance from West Crudwell,* one of the principal sources of the Thames, 3½ N. by E. of Malmesbury to Sheerness, is 204½ miles: the tide channel from the Nore to Teddington Lock is about 60 miles.†

The Kennet is made navigable from Newbury to the Thames, a distance by the stream of about twenty miles. In the course of this navigation there are 21 locks; the highest point is 264 feet above the level of the sea at low water; the fall from thence to Reading is about 134 feet.

CANALS.

Besides the navigation of the Thames and the Kennet, Berkshire has two canals, viz., the Wilts and Berks Canal, and the Kennet and Avon Canal. The former, projected in 1801, commences in the river Thames just below Abing-

* From Crudwell to Cricklade is 10½ miles; and from Cricklade to Lechlade 5½ miles.

† 'Geography of Great Britain,' Library of Useful Knowledge, pp. 48, 49.

don, and is carried through the Vale of White Horse past Wantage into Wiltshire: crossing this county near Swindon, Wootton Bassett, Calne, Chippenham, and Melksham, it joins the Kennet and Avon Canal not far from the last-mentioned town: it is 52 miles in length, 27½ feet in breadth at the surface, 14 feet at the bottom, and 4½ feet deep. The height of the Thames at the commencement of this canal is 180 feet above the sea at low water, and the canal rises in its course through this county till it enters Wiltshire, where it attains its summit level of 345 feet: the number of locks is about 40. It supplies with fuel the district through which it passes, and enables the agriculturalist to send his corn and other produce to market.

The Kennet and Avon Canal commences at Newbury, forming a continuation of the River Kennet navigation, and passes up the Vale of Kennet, by Hungerford and Great Bedwin, to Crofton in Wilts, near which its summit level begins. From this level it continues its course by Devizes, Semington (a village at which it is joined by the Wilts and Berks Canal), Trowbridge, and Bradford to Bath. The elevation of the highest point of the Kennet navigation is 264 feet, and the summit level of the Kennet and Avon Canal, at Crofton Tunnel, is 210 feet more: at Reading the elevation is only about 135 feet above low-water mark at London Bridge. There are above 40 locks in this canal. A little way above Hungerford the canal is carried over the

Kennet by an aqueduct of three arches. This canal is 45 feet in breadth at its surface, and from five to six feet deep. It was projected in 1796, and finished in 1810.

POST TOWNS.

The following are the towns in Berkshire for which bags are made up at the General Post-Office in London, with the number of letters and newspapers posted in one week, previous to the commencement of the penny postage:

	Letters.	Newspapers.
Abingdon . . .	761	
Faringdon . . .	395	54
Hungerford . . .	452	68
Maidenhead . . .	1060	134
Newbury . . .	1377	248
Reading . . .	2820	1213
Wantage . . .	320	45
Windsor . . .	2806	714
Wokingham . . .	241	51

MARKETS AND FAIRS.

The markets of Newbury and Reading not only supply the less fertile districts and the dairy counties with corn, but likewise give employment to numerous mills, whence the grain in the shape of flour is sent in considerable quantities to the London market.

There are numerous fairs in the county, some of which are very ancient, and others of later institution. The fairs at Reading are noted, especially that for horses on the 25th of July, and for cheese on the 21st of September. Ilsley sheep fairs are some of the largest after the great fairs on the Wiltshire Downs: one is held on the 26th March; but the largest, called Lamb Fair, is on

the 26th of August. On the market days, which are on Wednesdays, a sheep fair is held every fortnight, from Easter till shearing time, where large quantities of sheep are penned. There are fairs also at Abingdon, Newbury, and all the principal towns and villages, as the following list will show:—

Abingdon, first Monday in Lent, May 6, June 20, August 5, September 19, Monday before old Michaelmas, December 11; Arborfield, October 5; Aldermaston, May 6, July 7, October 11; Bracknell, April 25, August 22, October 1; East Ilsley, March 26, Wednesday in Easter week, and every other Wednesday till Whit Wednesday, August 26, first Wednesday after September 29, Wednesday after October

17, November 12; Farrington, February 15, Whit Tuesday, October 29; Hungerford, last Wednesday in April, August 10; Lambourn, May 12, October 2, December 4; Mortimer, April 27, Nov. 6; Maidenhead, Whit Wednesday, September 29, November 30; Newbury, Holy Thursday, July 5, September 4, October 14, November 8; Oakingham, April 23, June 11, October 10, November 2; Reading, February 2, May 1, July 25, September 21; Thatcham, second Tuesday after Easter Week, first Tuesday after September 29; Wallingford, June 24, September 29, December 17; Wantage, first Saturday in March and May, July 18, October 10 and 17; Windsor, Easter Tuesday, July 5, October 24.

CHAPTER II.

WINDSOR.

THE traveller from London to Windsor will scarcely adopt any other mode of conveyance than the expeditious one of the railway, unless he determines to journey in his own carriage by the turnpike road, or prefers a pedestrian excursion. In either case the flat monotonous highway and the dingy towns of Brentford, Hounslow and Colnbrook, between Hyde Park Corner and Slough, will afford him but little gratification. Instead of this laborious mode of enjoying a day's excursion, we will at once assume that the railway is preferred. There are omnibuses start from the city-office of the Railway Company, situated near the Bank, one hour before the departure of each train; and also from several of the principal coach-offices. The fare to the Paddington station is only sixpence; and by these conveyances there is the certainty of reaching it in time, although it is always advisable to apply for tickets immediately on entering the office, as there is frequently an influx of passengers at the last moment, and the clerks find it difficult to perform their duties so as to secure the punctuality which is maintained on this as on other

railways. On this railway the carriages are divided into the first and the second class. When the traveller has obtained his ticket, he is conducted from the office to the spot from whence the carriages start, and the ringing of a bell announces that the doors are closed, and those who are not in time must be content to remain until the despatch of the next train: a preliminary or warning bell has rung five minutes before. The officers of the Railway Company pay great attention to passengers, directing them to the carriages which are appropriated to individuals going to particular stations. The doors of each carriage are now locked, and the engine, which has been attached to the train in the mean time, is heard breathing and panting like a thing of life. A loud shrill whistle made by the engine is the signal of departure. After a few hundred yards the speed increases, producing, in most cases, a feeling of pleasure and excitement by the magnificent triumph of science which conveys the traveller through scenes of rural solitude with a rapidity that renders the air of the stillest and most sultry day a healthful and plea-

sant breeze. Some of the trains run to Slough without stopping; others deposit and receive passengers at every station. The Ealing, Hanwell, Southall, and West Drayton stations occur before that of Slough. The trains, which stop at these smaller stations are termed mixed trains. Every train without exception, both up and down the line, stops at the Slough station, which is reached in about forty minutes after leaving Paddington. A handsome range of buildings is now erecting at this point, which is the nearest to Windsor. At Slough there are omnibuses in waiting which convey the passengers by the different trains to Eton and Windsor: the fare is sixpence.

From Slough to Eton College is little more than a mile. SLOUGH is distinguished by the circumstance of having been the residence of the great astronomer, Sir William Herschell, and here he made some of his most remarkable observations on the heavens. Before entering the College we pass the beautiful playing-fields of the Etonians. The buildings of this institution,—the

————“antique towers,
That crown the watery glade,”

show best from a distance, where they are set off by the natural beauties of their situation. The back of the College, looking from the Thames, forms a landscape of great beauty, which has often been painted by our most celebrated artists



[Eton College from the Thames.]

—The entire College is a conspicuous and ornamental object in the splendid view from the terrace of Windsor Castle. It consists of two quadrangles, built partly of freestone, but chiefly of brick, in a style somewhat resembling that of the north front of St. James's Palace. In the one quadrangle are the school and the chapel, with the lodgings for the scholars; the other contains the library, the provost's house, and the apartments of the fellows. The chapel, which is built of stone, is the part in which the architecture is most ambitious; it is externally a handsome structure, though very plain in the interior. It is one hundred and seventy-five feet in length, including an ante-chapel which is sixty-two feet long. In the centre of the first-mentioned quadrangle stands a bronze statue of Henry VI. which was erected in the early part of the last century by Dr. Godolphin, the provost of the college. There is another statue of the same king in the chapel, the work of the late John Bacon.

ETON COLLEGE was founded by Henry VI. The foundation charter is dated at Windsor, on the twelfth of September, in the nineteenth year of his reign, that is, in the year 1440. The original establishment was a provost, ten priests, four clerks, six choristers, twenty-five poor grammar scholars, and the like number of poor men. It now consists of a provost, six other fellows, two schoolmasters, two conducts, seven clerks, seventy king's scholars, ten choristers, and a number of inferior officers and servants. Besides the scho-

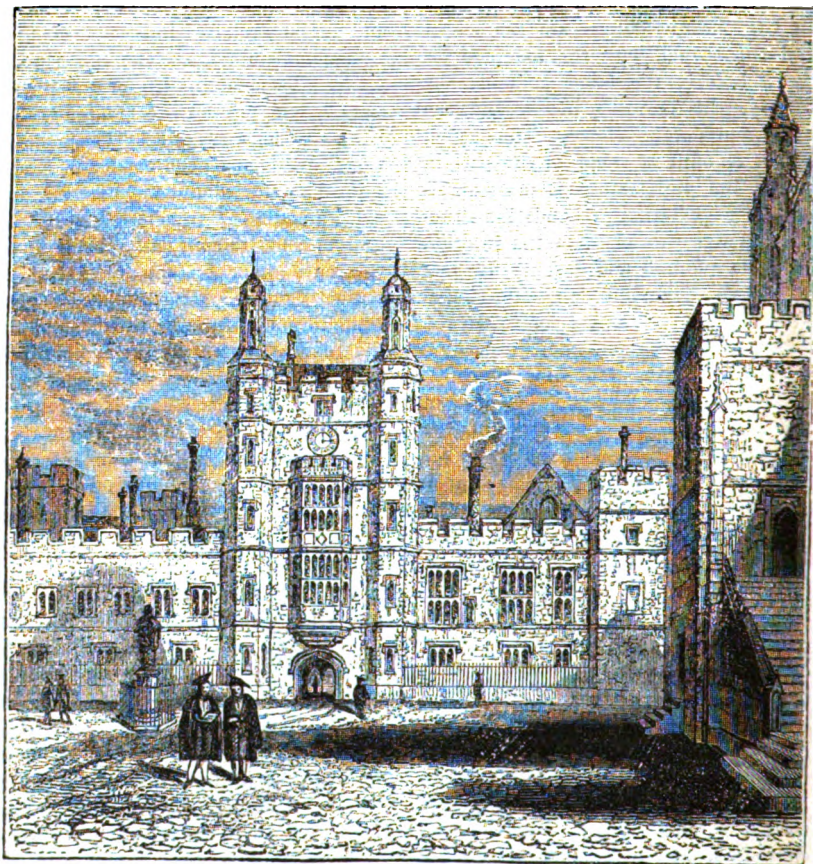
lars on the foundation, the school is always attended by a much larger number of others, called oppidans. The total number of scholars is now about six hundred.

From the seventy king's scholars a certain number are annually selected and put on a roll for admission to King's College, Cambridge. The election is made, after examination of the upper class, by the provost and two fellows of King's College, assisted by the provost, vice-provost, and head master of Eton. The successful candidates, however, are not immediately transferred to Cambridge, but remain at school until vacancies occur on the foundation of King's College. The supply is prevented from outrunning the demand by the regulation that at the age of nineteen an Etonian is superannuated, as it is called, or is not allowed to remain longer at school. On their removal to Cambridge the Eton scholars are received on the foundation of the college and maintained from its funds; and after three years they succeed to fellowships.

Mr. Britton, in the second volume of his 'Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain,' has printed, from manuscripts in the British Museum, some accounts of the expenditure on the building of Eton College, which curiously illustrate wages and prices in former times. The work appears to have been commenced in the beginning of July, 1441. The first week there were employed seventeen carpenters, seven stone-masons, fifteen sawyers, and thirty-one common

abourers. In the second week two more masons and twenty-five more labourers were added. By December we find thirty-five free masons and two row masons employed. The wages of masons and carpenters were sixpence a-

day, and those of labourers twopence. Many days were lost, however, both to the men and to the progress of the work, as being holydays of the church. The first year the entire expenditure was usually from 6*l.* to 9*l.* per week.



[Quadrangle of Eton College.]

The second year there was paid for labour alone 712*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, and for materials 1447*l.* 4*s.* That year 457 tons of stone were imported from Caen, in Normandy, which appear to have been paid for at the rate of 5*s.* 8*d.* per ton at the quarry, 4*s.* more for carriage to London, and 1*s.* 4*d.* more for carriage to Eton: the total cost, therefore, was 11*s.* per ton. Most of our old buildings, we may remark, from the Conquest down to the end of the fifteenth century, were constructed of stone from Caen.

The portion of Eton College which is of brick was not begun till 1443. That year 100,000 bricks were used, which cost 1*sd.* the thousand. In five years there were consumed 1,637,750 bricks. The brick-kiln was near Slough, in a field now the property of the College, but which was then rented at twenty shillings per annum. The building suffered considerable interruptions before it was completed; and the great tower gateway, indeed, called Lupton's Tower, which was the last part erected, was not finished till the year 1523, in the reign of Henry VIII.

The town of Eton principally consists of one long street, offering nothing remarkable to the curiosity of the stranger. Windsor and Eton, though situated on opposite sides of the Thames, and in different counties (Eton being in Buckinghamshire), form in appearance only one town. The bridge over the river is the only interruption to the line of houses. This bridge, which is of iron, was built in 1823-4. It is a neat structure, of which the engineer was

Mr. Hollis, from whose designs the parish church was also built.

The town of Windsor has not much to recommend it to the attention of the visitors, the houses having neither the historical interest which belongs to ancient buildings, nor the elegance of modern erections. Windsor is a clean, neat country town, with good shops. Independent of the Castle, and of the beautiful scenery by which it is surrounded, what is worthy of note in it may be briefly described.

Windsor is a parliamentary and municipal borough, returning two members, and in 1831 had a population of 5650. The municipal and parliamentary boundaries are identical, comprising the whole of the parish of New Windsor (with the exception of the hamlet of Dedworth) and a portion of the parish of Clewer, in which the town of Windsor has extended. Since the passing of the Reform Act an extra-parochial division, called the Lower Ward of the Castle,—which contains the residences of the provost and fellows of St. George's Chapel, the military knights, &c.,—has been included within the borough. Old Windsor is a parish quite distinct from New Windsor. The Saxon kings had a palace at Old Windsor, and Edward the Confessor occasionally kept his court there; but on Windsor Castle becoming the favourite residence of the kings of England, the new town rose into importance, and from having been a chapelry in the parish of Clewer and a part of Clewer manor, it was constituted a separate

parish. The Saxon name of Old Windsor was Windles-ofra or Windleshora, so called, according to the statements of our old topographical writers, from the winding course of the river Thames.

Edward I. made New Windsor a free borough, and Edward IV. granted the burgesses a charter of incorporation. Edward I. was so desirous of benefiting the place that he made it the assize town for the county, though its situation was extremely inconvenient. The county gaol was removed from Wallingford to Windsor; but in consequence of a petition in 1349, it was transferred to Reading, though the king at first refused to make the alteration, alleging in the words of the record, "*Le roi ne veut pas avoir sa gaole en altre chatel qu'en la seon.*" At this period the sovereign exercised his direct influence in judicial proceedings. With the exception of nearly a century, during which the indulgence of the crown probably allowed the electors to omit making returns, the privilege of returning two members to parliament has been exercised since the reign of Edward I. The right of voting which had been exclusively enjoyed by the corporation, was, in 1690, extended to the inhabitants paying scot and lot. In 1835, when the Commissioners of Corporation Inquiry visited the borough, the income of the corporation amounted to about 650*l.* per annum. The town is now divided into two wards, returning six aldermen and eighteen counsellors. The borough has its own quarter-ses-

sions of the peace, and a court for the recovery of small debts.

Windsor is pleasantly situated on rising ground, and consists of six principal streets, well paved and lighted, besides smaller streets, some of which have rather a mean appearance. The old church was pulled down in 1818, and the present edifice, in the later pointed style, was opened in 1822. The Independents and Wesleyan Methodists have places of worship. The Guildhall or Town-house was built in 1686, and contains portraits of the sovereigns of England from King Charles I., besides a few other portraits. There are statues of Queen Anne and her consort Prince George of Denmark in niches, one at each end of the building. The other buildings of a public character are the Free School, erected in 1706, a gaol, a theatre, and barracks for cavalry and infantry. There are endowments appropriated to the purposes of education, and several almshouses and modern charitable and literary institutions, and a weekly newspaper is printed in the town.

Windsor is not situated upon any great thoroughfare; it has no manufactures; and no trade beyond that which the demand of an opulent neighbourhood creates. There is a market held every Saturday, and annual fairs at Easter, and in July and October.

THE CASTLE.

On a hill which is somewhat precipitous to the north, but is of gentle ascent in other directions, stands the Castle of

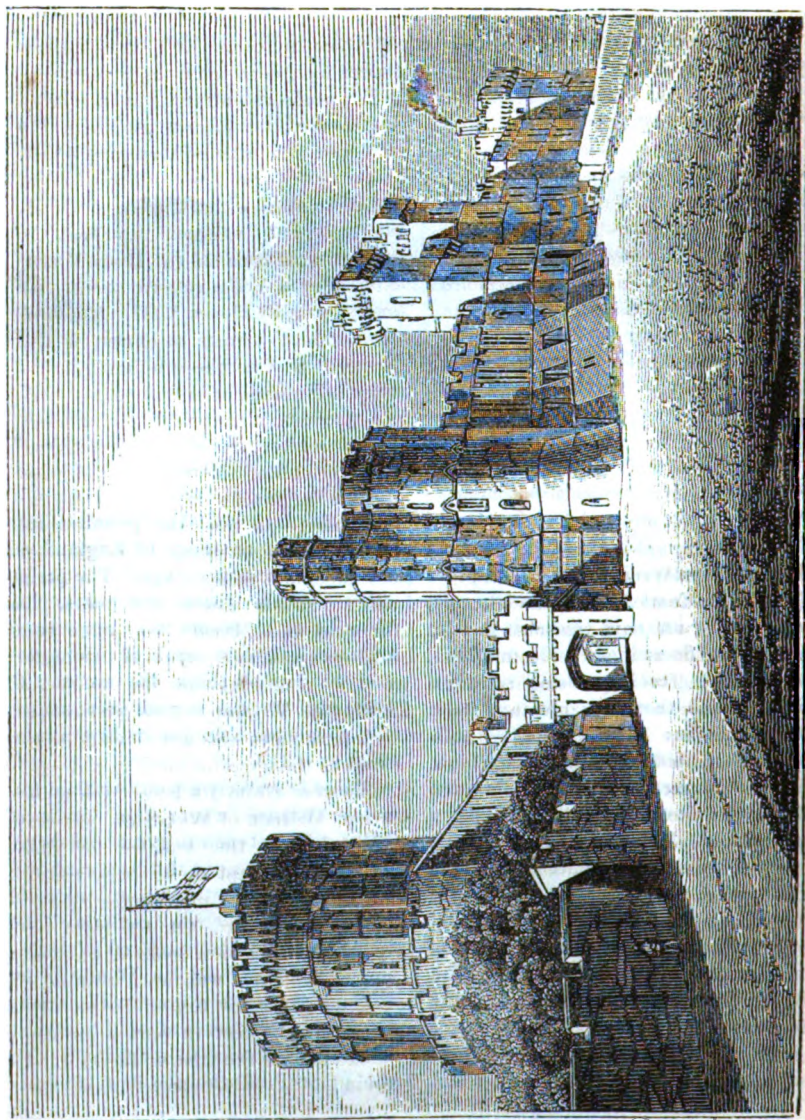


[North-west View of Windsor Castle, from the Thames]

Windsor. "It enjoyeth," says our old English topographer Camden, "a most delightful prospect round about; for right in the front it overlooketh a vale, lying out far and wide, garnished with corn-fields, flourishing with meadows, decked with groves on either side, and watered with the most mild and calm river Thames: behind it arise hills everywhere, neither rough nor over-high, attired as it were with woods, and even dedicated as it were by nature to hunting and 'game.'" The magnificent castle which crowns this eminence is associated with some of the most interesting events and persons in the history of our country. It has witnessed all the pomp of chivalry, and its courts have rung with the feasts and tournaments of the Edwards and Henrys. Kings were born here,—and here they are buried; and after every change of fashion and

opinions, it is still the proudest residence of the sovereign of England, as it was seven centuries ago. The parliament, within these few years, has thought fit to bestow very large sums upon the complete repair of this castle; and we cannot think the amount ill bestowed, for the ancient recollections of a people are amongst its best possessions.

There is scarcely a point within a few miles distance where the Castle of Windsor is not seen to great advantage. To the traveller upon the Bath road and on the railway it presents its bold northern front, which comprises the longest continuous range of its buildings. On the road to Windsor, by Datchet, the eastern front, with its four grand towers, appears of itself to exceed most other edifices in magnitude. To the great Park the southern front is



[The Castle—Round Tower, and South Front.]

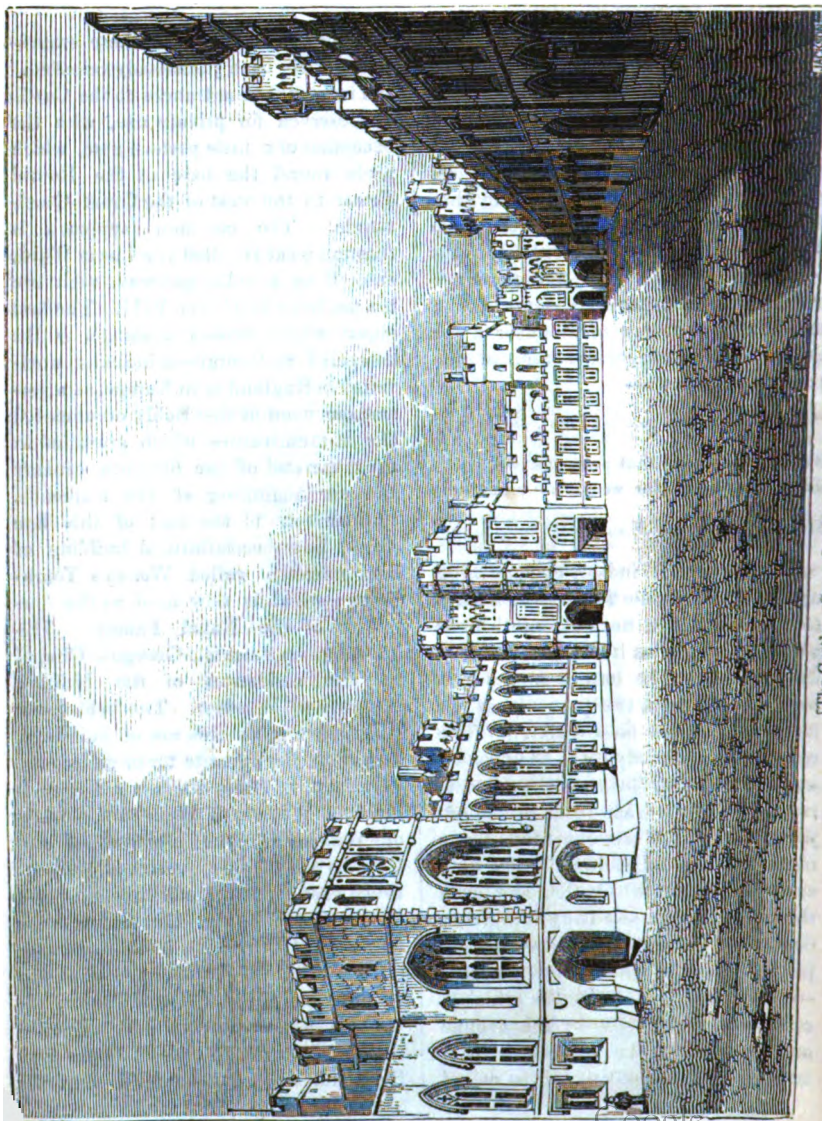
displayed; and when this part is viewed from the extremity of the fine avenue called the Long Walk, nothing can appear more stately. In every situation the Round Tower rises above the other buildings, and arrests the eye by its surpassing dimensions. Burke has well characterised it as "the proud keep of Windsor." Sir John Denham, in his poem, of Cooper's Hill (an eminence overlooking Runnemede), describes the majestic appearance of Windsor in the quaint and exaggerated tone of the poetry of his day:—

"Such seems thy gentle height, made only
To be the basis of that pompous load,
Thence which a nobler weight no mountain
Bears,
But Atlas only which supports the spheres."

The visitor to Windsor, upon turning up the street (Castle Street) which leads to the Castle, will have the south front presented to him as it is represented in the wood-cut. The improvements that have been made in this part within the last few years are most striking. The road now leads boldly up to the Castle; and the observer looks without interruption upon the rich woods of the adjacent parks. A very short time ago a number of contemptible buildings were scattered about the Castle; and even the superb avenue, the Long Walk, was deprived of its natural object—(the object doubtless for which it was planted)—that of forming a road to the principal entrance to the Castle, by the avenue and the entrance being crossed by a large plastered house and offices called

the Queen's Lodge. All these excrescences have been judiciously removed.

The southern entrances to the Castle are reserved for private use, with the exception of a little postern gate, which leads round the base of the Round Tower to the west of the Great Quadrangle. The common approach is through what is called the Lower Ward, entered by a noble gateway, with two towers, built by Henry VIII. The first object which arrests attention is the Chapel of St. George—a building unrivalled in England or in Europe, as a perfect specimen of that richly ornamented Gothic architecture which prevailed in the latter end of the fifteenth century and the beginning of the sixteenth. Immediately to the east of this fine chapel is an ecclesiastical building of later erection, called Wolsey's Tomb-house; which is now used as the dormitory of the Royal Family. The buildings opposite St. George's Chapel are the residences of the Military Knights of Windsor. The bold tower which terminates this row of buildings, as well as the opposite tower called the Winchester, (from its being the residence of William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, the architect of the Castle,) are the best preserved, without much change, of the more ancient parts of the whole fabric. On the right as he proceeds, the visitor looks down over a low battlemented wall, upon what was once the moat of the Round Tower. It appears to have been in part a garden as long since as the time of James I. of Scotland, who was detained here for



some time, and has celebrated this solace of his imprisonment in one of his poems. The tower itself rises in stern grandeur out of this depth. The mound upon which it is built is no doubt artificial. This immense tower has been considerably elevated within a few years, in common with many other parts of the Castle.

Proceeding through a gateway of two towers, whose low portal indicates its antiquity and its employment for defence, the visitor finds himself within the magnificent quadrangle of the palace. On the north are the state apartments, in which is included the celebrated Hall of St. George:—on the east and south the private apartments of the Queen and her Court. The state apartments are exhibited to strangers, as we shall more particularly mention. Nothing can be more imposing than the general effect of this quadrangle. Every part is now of a uniform character. We look in vain for the narrow grated windows and pierced battlements of the times of feudal strife, when convenience was sacrificed to security. These characteristics of a martial age were swept away by Charles II., who substituted the architectural style of the age of Louis XIV., than which nothing could have been in worse taste. In the recent alterations of the Castle, the architect has most judiciously preserved the best characteristics of old English domestic architecture. The wood-cut may give some notion of the richness and grandeur of this quadrangle.

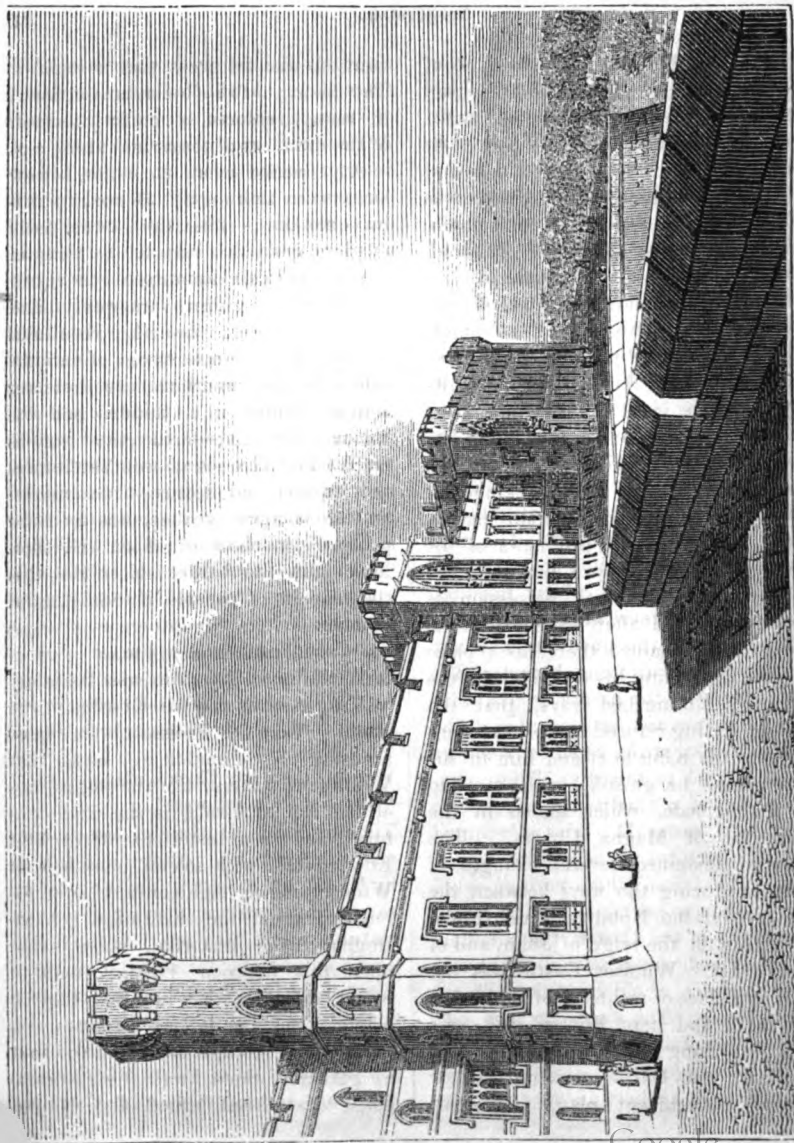
Returning a short distance, the en-

trance to the terrace presents itself to the visitor. After descending a flight of steps, the scene is totally changed. A prospect, unrivalled in extent and beauty, bursts upon the sight. Few persons can look upon this scene without emotion. The eye delightedly wanders over the various features of this remarkable landscape. It traces the Thames gliding tranquilly and brilliantly along, through green and shadowy banks—sometimes presenting a broad surface, and sometimes escaping from observation in its sudden and capricious windings;—it ranges as far as the distant hills—it counts the numerous turrets and spires of the neighbouring villages—or it reposes upon the antique grandeur of Eton College. Gray has beautifully described this magnificent prospect in well-known lines:—

——“ From the stately brow
Of Windsor's heights th' expanse below
Of grove, of lawn, of mead survey,
Whose turf, whose shade, whose flowers
among
Wanders the hoary Thames along
His silver winding way.”

The north side of the terrace is constantly open to the public; and this is by far the finest part. To the eastern side admittance is only granted on Saturdays and Sundays. At the north-east angle of the terrace the northern front of the Castle is exhibited as shown in the wood-cut in the next page.

The earliest history of Windsor Castle, like that of many other ancient buildings, is involved in some obscurity.



St. John's Castle — North Front and Terrace]

It is doubtful whether in the time of William the Conqueror, and of his son Rufus, it was used as a residence; but it was certainly then a military post. At Old Windsor, a village about a mile and a half from the present castle, there was a Saxon palace, which was occasionally inhabited by the kings of England. Henry I. held his court there in 1105 and 1107; but having enlarged the adjacent castle with "many fair buildings," he, according to the Saxon Chronicle, kept the festival of Whitsuntide there in 1110. In the time of Stephen, the Castle, according to *Holingshed's Chronicle*, was esteemed the second fortress in the kingdom. Henry II. and his son held two parliaments there. Upon the news of his brother Richard's imprisonment in the Holy Land, John took possession of the Castle; and after his accession to the throne remained there, as a place of security, during his contests with the barons. *Holingshed* says, that the barons, having refused to obey the summons of the King to attend him in his own castle, he gave them the meeting at Runnemed, which ended in the signature of Magna Charta. The fortress sustained several changes of masters during the wars between the Crown and the Nobility, which broke out again in the reign of John, and of Henry III. Windsor Castle was the favourite place of residence of Edward I. and II.; and here Edward III. was born. During the long reign of this monarch, the Castle, according to its present magnificent plan, was com-

menced, and in great part completed. The history of the building furnishes, in many respects, a curious picture of the manners of the feudal ages.

At a period when no man's possessions were thoroughly assured to him by equal laws,—when the internal peace of kingdoms was distracted by the pretensions of rival claimants to sovereignty,—and when foreign wars were undertaken, not for the assertion of national honour or the preservation of national safety, but at the arbitrary will of each warlike holder of a throne, personal valour was considered the highest merit; and the great were esteemed, not for their intellectual acquirements and their moral virtues, but for their gallantry in the tournament and their ferocity in the battle-field. Amongst the legends of the old chroniclers and romance-writers (and there was originally small difference in the two characters), the most favourite was the story of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. *Froissart*, the most amusing of chroniclers, says, that Windsor was the seat of the solemnities of the Round Table, in the sixth century: and later historians affirm that Edward III. in a solemn joust held at Windsor in the eighteenth year of his reign, revived the institution. *Walsingham*, the historian, states, that upon this occasion Edward built a round chamber, two hundred feet in diameter, for the deliberations and festivals of the companions in arms that he gathered about him. This strange house was itself called the Round

Table. It is probable that it was a temporary structure; for, within a short time after, various commissions for appointing surveyors and impressing workmen were issued; and in 1356, William of Wykeham, then one of the king's chaplains, was appointed architect of the various buildings which Edward's taste for magnificent display had projected. In one year three hundred and sixty workmen were impressed to be employed at the king's wages. Some of them having secretly left Windsor to engage in other employments for greater wages, writs were issued for their committal to prison, and to prohibit all persons from engaging them under severe penalties. Such were the modes in which the freedom of industry was violated, before the principles of commercial intercourse were fairly established.

Impressments of various artificers appear to have gone on for the same object, till the year 1373; after which there are no records of more commissions being issued. It is probable, therefore, that this immense work was completed, as far as Edward III. had contemplated, in about seventeen years from its commencement. Before it had been begun, Edward had founded the Order of the Garter; and during its progress, and after its completion, the festivals of this institution were celebrated at Windsor with every pomp of regal state. Knights-strangers were several times invited from all parts of the world, with letters of safe-conduct to pass and repass the realm; and one of these festivals is par-

ticularly described by the chroniclers as exceeding all others in splendour, which was given in honour of John, King of France, who was then a prisoner at Windsor. John, who appears to have been a shrewd observer, is recorded to have said, that he never knew such royal shows and feastings, without some after-reckoning for gold and silver.

With the exception of occasional high pageantries on the festival of St. George, Windsor Castle does not appear to have been the scene of many public solemnities after the reign of its chivalrous founder. Richard II., however, heard here the appeal of high treason brought by the Duke of Lancaster against the Duke of Norfolk. But it was often the favourite country residence of our kings; several of whom, particularly Henry VII., continued to make various additions and improvements. There is a curious poem by the Earl of Surrey, who was confined in the Castle for violating the canons of the church, by eating flesh in Lent, which presents the best picture we have of the kind of life which the accomplished gallants of the English court led in our country palaces, at a period when refinement had not taken away the relish for simple pleasures. He describes

"The large green courts where we were wont to hove *

With eyes cast up into the maiden's tower;"

and he goes on to contrast his painful imprisonment with his former happiness amongst "the stately seats," "the ladies

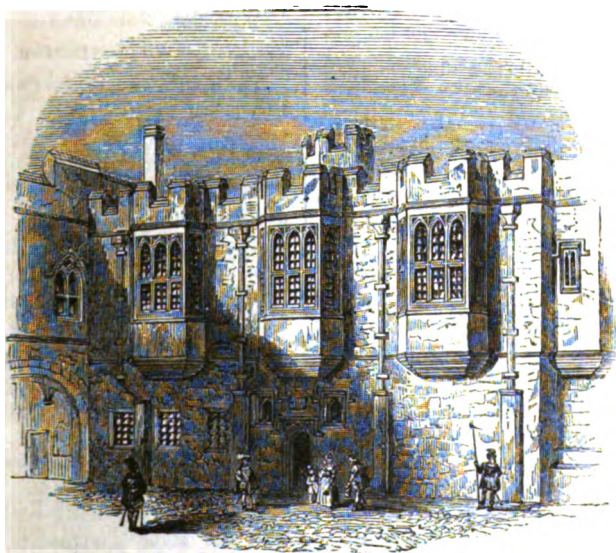
* *Loiter.*

bright," "the dances short," "the palm-play,"* "the gravel-ground,"† "the secret groves," and "the wild forest,"

"With cry of hounds, and merry blasts between,
Where we did chase the fearful hart of force."

The age of Elizabeth brought with it

a love of letters; and here "the maiden queen" occasionally retired from the cares of state, to dictate verses to her private secretary, or receive the flatteries of the accomplished Leicester. There is in the State Paper Office an original manuscript translation of Horace's *Art of Poetry*, composed by Elizabeth under



[Part of Windsor Castle,—built in the time of Elizabeth.]

such circumstances. This queen built the north terrace, and a gallery still called after her name, and retaining the peculiar style of the architecture of her day. We give a view of it as it appeared

* Fives.

† For tournaments.

before the recent improvements, in which, however, the characteristic features of the architecture have been little changed.

Windsor Castle was garrisoned by the parliament during the great civil

war of Charles I.; and it was the last prison of that unfortunate monarch. Upon the restoration, Charles II. bestowed upon the Castle the doubtful honour of repairing it according to his foreign taste. We have no accurate records of what he destroyed; but the probability is, that in remodelling the interior he swept away some of the most valuable memorials that existed of the style of living amongst his predecessors. St. George's Hall was covered with paintings by Verrio, as were the ceilings of all the other state apartments; and truly nothing can be more disgusting than the nauseous flattery and bad taste of these productions. Most of the miserable improvements, as they were called, of this king, have been swept away from the exterior of the Castle; and, in many particulars, from the interior. St. George's Hall is once more a Gothic room, such as the "invincible knights of old" might have feasted in. Charles II., however, carried the terrace round the east and south fronts.

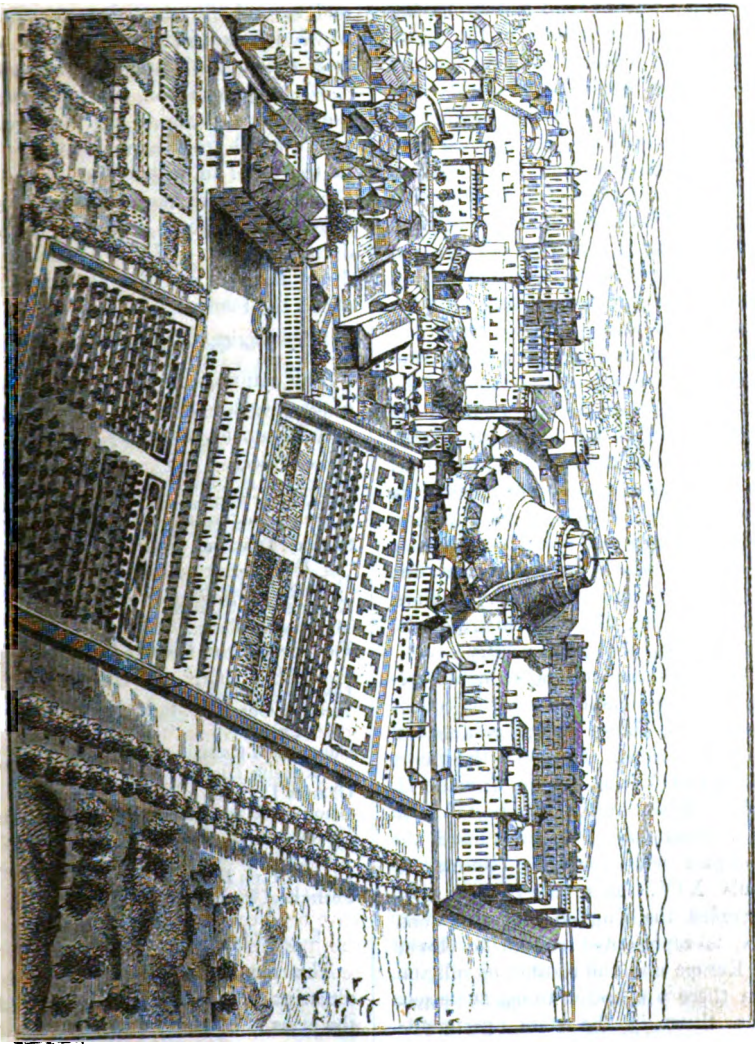
Queen Anne frequently resided at Windsor. In the reigns of the first and second Georges it was neglected. George III. dwelt for many years in a white-washed house at the foot of his own palace; till at length he determined to occupy the old Castle. The apartments were little adapted to the notions of modern comfort, but the Royal Family continued to reside here till the death of the King. George IV. inhabited the Castle as it was, for a few

months in 1823; but in 1824, its general decay and want of accommodation were brought under the notice of parliament. Commissioners were appointed for superintending the alterations, and a large sum was voted for the first outlay. Mr. Wyatville (the late Sir Jeffery) was appointed the architect; and from that time the works were carried on with unremitting diligence.

THE INTERIOR.

The apartments of the Queen and her Court are as numerous as they are splendid. Round the east and south sides of the quadrangle runs a corridor, forming a magnificent gallery above, and connecting the various parts of the immense range of offices below. The principal floor of this corridor is superbly furnished with pictures and statues. The chief apartments of the Queen are in the south-eastern tower, and the eastern front. The dining, drawing, and music rooms are of extraordinary dimensions, forming that fine suite whose grand oriel windows look out upon the eastern terrace. They are connected, at the north-eastern angle, with the state apartments, some of which, particularly St. George's Hall, are used on occasions of high festival.

The state apartments are exhibited daily to the public. Several of them have been completely remodelled under the parliamentary commission for the repairs of the Castle. The guard-room is now fitted up with great appropriateness: one of the most remarkable



[Third's Eye View of Windsor Castle in the time of Charles II.]

objects is a bust of Lord Nelson, having for its pedestal a portion of the mainmast of the Victory, his own ship, on the deck of which he gloriously fell. St. George's Hall, as we mentioned before, has been entirely purified from the productions of the false taste of the time of Charles II. An adjoining chapel has been added to the original hall; so that it is now an oblong room of vast length, with a range of tall pointed-arch windows looking upon the square. Its walls, panelled with dark oak, are hung with the portraits of successive sovereigns of the Order of the Garter; and heraldic insignia of the ancient knights are borne on shields which surround the splendid room. Of the other new state apartments, the principal are the ball-room, glittering with burnished gold; and the Waterloo gallery, in which are hung the fine series of portraits of the princes, warriors, and statesmen, who were instrumental in forwarding that great victory.

The remaining state apartments present an assemblage of such objects as are usually shown in our palaces and noble mansions. Here are the gaudy ceilings of Verrio, where Charles II. and his Queen are humbly waited upon by Jupiter and Neptune; and the profligate who sold his country to Louis XIV. for a paltry bribe, and degraded the English court by every vice, is represented as the pacificator of Europe and the restorer of religion. But there are better things to be seen than these in the state apartments. There are many pictures of great beauty,

and several of transcendent excellence, which the best judges of art may come from the ends of Europe to gaze upon.

We subjoin a list of the pictures and the few sculptures in the state apartments which are exhibited to the public, in the order in which the rooms are shown. The entrance to the apartments is by a Gothic porch adjoining to King John's Tower. Here a porter will direct the visitor to the attendant who shows the rooms.

1. *The Queen's Ball-Room.*

The paintings in this room, which is of considerable extent, but without much embellishment, are all by Vandyck:—

Duke of Berg.
Charles I. and family
Duchess of Richmond.
Lady Venetia Digby.
Second Duke of Buckingham and his Brother.
Duke of Carignon.
Killigrew and Carew.
Madame St. Croix.
Four Portraits of Charles I.'s Queen, Henrietta.
Charles I.'s Children.
Head of Charles I. in three different points of view.
Countess of Carlisle.
Sir Kenelm Digby.
Charles II. when a boy.
Countess of Dorset.
Vandyck's own Portrait.
Three Children of Charles I.
Charles I. on Horseback.
Portrait of Snelling.

2. *The Queen's Drawing-Room.*

This room was decorated under the direction of the Queen Dowager, and the arms of England and Saxe Meiningen surmounted by the crown of Eng-

land are richly emblazoned on the cove of the ceiling; and in other compartments are inscribed the initials W. R. and A. R. The paintings are all by Zucarelli, and consist of eleven landscapes of Italian scenery and the following scriptural pieces:—

The Meeting of Isaac and Rebecca.

The Finding of Moses.

Jacob Watering his Flock.

3. The Queen's Closet.

This is a small room ornamented with rich festoons of fruit and flowers. The ceiling exhibits the words "Adelaide Regina, 1833" in gold, surmounted by the crown. The frames of the large mirrors are of massive silver. The paintings are:—

Portrait of Henry VIII.	<i>Holbein.</i>
Two Landscapes . . .	<i>Claude Lorraine.</i>
A Head	<i>Leon. da Vinci.</i>
Ditto	<i>Rembrandt.</i>
Duke of Norfolk . . .	<i>Holbein.</i>
Duke of Hamilton . .	<i>Honthorst.</i>
Edward VI.	<i>Holbein.</i>
Virgin and Child. . .	<i>Vandyck.</i>
Holy Family	<i>Sebas. del Piombo.</i>
Two Interiors of a Gallery	<i>Old Teniers.</i>
Landscape and Figures	<i>Teniers, Jun.</i>
The Nativity	<i>Baroccio.</i>
A Portrait	<i>Bassano.</i>
A Head	<i>G. Dow.</i>
A Head	<i>Rubens.</i>
Titian and Aretiuses .	<i>Titian.</i>
Infant Christ	<i>C. Maratti</i>
St. John	<i>Guercino.</i>
Erasmus	<i>Geo. Penn.</i>
Four Sea Ports in Italy	<i>Carlo Veres.</i>

4. The King's Closet

Is decorated with naval emblems, and the initials "W. R." in the cove of the ceiling show that this apartment was

embellished under the direction of the only naval sovereign of England we have had since the Revolution. The pictures are numerous:—

The Emperor Charles

V.	<i>Sir A. More.</i>
Man's Head	<i>Parmegiano.</i>
Man with a Sword . .	<i>Spagnoletti.</i>
St. Sebastian	<i>Guido.</i>
The Misers	<i>Q. Matsys.</i>
His own Portrait. . .	<i>Vancleeve.</i>
The Wife of	<i>Ditto.</i>
A Fair	<i>Breughel.</i>
Going into the Ark. .	<i>Ditto.</i>
The Interior of a Picture Gallery. . . .	<i>E. Quillinus.</i>
Ecce Homo.	<i>Carlo Dolci.</i>
Madonna	<i>Ditto.</i>
St. Catherine	<i>Guido.</i>
Small Picture. . . .	<i>Elchiner.</i>
Holy Family	<i>Tintoretto.</i>
The Woman at the Well.	<i>Guercino.</i>
His own Portrait with a Cupid.	<i>Ditto.</i>
Encampment.	<i>Wouvermans.</i>
St. Catherine.	<i>Domenichino.</i>
An Antiquarian with a Shell.	<i>Mireveldt.</i>
Head of a Young Man.	<i>Parmegiano.</i>
Two Views of Windsor Castle.	<i>Voslerman.</i>
The Last Supper . . .	<i>Rubens.</i>
Two Landscapes . . .	<i>Wouvermans.</i>
Still Life, Shells, &c. .	<i>Francis Franks.</i>
Prison Scene.	<i>Steenwyck.</i>
Landscape, with Horses	<i>A. Vandevelde.</i>
Music Master and Pupil	<i>Eglon Vanderneer.</i>
Two Holy Families . .	<i>Teniers.</i>
Holy Family.	<i>Julio Romano.</i>
Holy Family	<i>C. Procauni.</i>
Two Interiors	<i>Peter de Neef.</i>
Interior, with Figures	<i>Jan Steen.</i>
Gardener to the Duke of Florence	<i>A. del Sarto.</i>
Duke of Alva.	<i>Sir A. More.</i>

5. The King's Council-Room

Is in the style prevalent at the Restora-

tion, and the ceiling is ornamented with the arms of Charles II. : the initials C. R. and the date of 1660, the year of the Restoration, are inscribed at the quarterings of the shield. This apartment contains:—

Duke of Marlborough	<i>Kneller.</i>
Cleopatra	<i>Guido.</i>
Jonas	<i>N. and G. Poussin</i>
Female Head	<i>Parmegiano.</i>
Countess of Desmond	<i>Rembrandt.</i>
Sea Piece	<i>Claude.</i>
St. John	<i>Correggio.</i>
St. Paul	<i>Guercino.</i>
St. Peter	<i>Ditto.</i>
Man with a Book	<i>Holbein.</i>
A Sibyl	<i>Guercino.</i>
Female Head	<i>A. del Sarto.</i>
St. Catherine	<i>Leonardo da Vinci.</i>
Holy Family	<i>Garofalo.</i>
Man's Head	<i>Holbein.</i>
Three Landscapes	<i>G. Poussin.</i>
A Magdalen	<i>Carlo Dolci.</i>
Herodias' Daughter	<i>Ditto.</i>
Martin Luther	<i>Holbein.</i>
Silence	<i>A. Caracci.</i>
Man with a Book	<i>Parmegiano.</i>
Inside of a Farm-house	<i>Teniers.</i>
Two Church Pieces	<i>De Neef.</i>
Virgin and Child	<i>C. Maratti.</i>
View of Rome	<i>Claude.</i>
Landscape, with Claude drawing	<i>Ditto.</i>
St. Agnes	<i>Domenichino.</i>
Two Holy Families	<i>A. del Sarto.</i>
Landscape and Cattle	<i>Berghem.</i>
Prince Rupert	<i>Sir P. Lely.</i>

6. The King's Drawing-Room.

The ceiling of this room is very beautiful, consisting of wreaths encircling the letters G. R., the royal arms and various insignia, the effect of which is heightened by delicate gilding. All the paintings are by Rubens:—

Portrait of Rubens.
St. Martin dividing his Cloak.

Holy Family.
Philip II. of Spain, on Horseback.
Portrait of Rubens' First Wife.
Two Landscapes, Summer and Winter.
Archduke Albert.
Family of Sir B. Gerbies.
Battle of Nordlingen.
Portrait (unknown).

7. The Vestibule

Contains the following paintings by West, executed in 1787-8-9, illustrating some of the principal events of the reign of our great king Edward III.

The Battle of Cressy.
Surrender of Calais.
Edward entertaining his Prisoners after
the Surrender of Calais.
Battle of Poitiers.
Battle of Neville's Cross.

The busts in terra cotta are Edward III. and his Queen Philippa.

8. The Throne-Room

Is one of the most splendid of the state apartments, and is highly and richly decorated with the insignia of the Order of the Garter. The panels of the walls are of oak with Gibbons' fine carvings; the face of the larger panels is velvet of garter blue, and the smaller ones contain mirrors. The only paintings are:—

The Installation of
Knights of the
Garter *B. West.*
Portrait, George III. *Gainsborough.*
Portrait, George IV. *Sir T. Lawrence.*
Portrait, William IV. *Sir M. A. Shee.*

9. The Ball Room

Is ninety feet long and of corresponding proportions in other respects. The embellishments are in the style of Louis XIV. with a profusion of gilding, and the walls are hung with Gobelin tapes-

try, representing the story of the Golden Fleece. When used as a ball-room it is lighted with four splendid chandeliers.

10. *The Waterloo Chamber*

Is longer than the ball-room by eight feet, and the ceiling is in the style which characterises the old mansions of the reign of Elizabeth. The paintings are more popularly interesting than perhaps many of the finer productions of the old masters in the other apartments, being the portraits of men whose names are familiar to the existing generation—the sovereigns, statesmen and soldiers who either in the cabinet or in the field took a prominent part in the last pacification of Europe. The room is lighted by a gallery of ground glass. The paintings are as follow; and with the exception of William IV. by Wilkie; George III. by Beechey; Picton and the Marquis of Anglesea by Sir M. A. Shee, and General Kemp by Pickersgill, are all by Sir Thomas Lawrence :—

George IV.
William IV.
Prince Metternich.
Earl Bathurst, K.G.
Field Marshal Blucher.
Cardinal Gonsalvi.
Duke of Wellington.
His Holiness Pope Pius VII.
Earl of Liverpool, K.G.
Baron Hardenberg.
Count Capo d'Istria.
Count Nesselrode.
Marquis of Londonderry, K.G.
Frederic William III. King of Prussia.
Francis II. Emperor of Austria.
Alexander, Emperor of all the Russias.
The Archduke Charles.
H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, K.G.

Duke of York.
Prince Schwartzberg.
Right Hon. George Canning.
Count Munster.
Duke de Richelieu.
Baron Humboldt.
George III.
Lieut. Gen. Sir Thomas Picton.
Marquis of Anglesea.
Lieut. Gen. Sir James Kemp.

The visitor is next shown the *Grand Vestibule*, which contains suites of armour of the time of Elizabeth and Charles I.; the *Grand Staircase* with the marble statue of George IV. by Chantrey; the *State Ante-room*, which contains a painting on glass of George III. from Sir Joshua Reynolds; and he is then conducted to the *Guard Chamber*, a spacious room containing busts of Marlborough, Nelson, and Wellington, that of the naval hero being placed on that part of the mast of his own ship, the *Victory*, which was perforated at Trafalgar by a cannon-ball. The banners presented annually by the owners of Blenheim and Strathfieldsay are appropriately placed in this room, which contains many other interesting objects, but as they are enumerated and pointed out by the attendant, we need not describe them in this place.

15. *St. George's Hall.*

This apartment, dedicated to the most noble Order of the Garter, is generally allowed to be one of the most magnificent in Europe. It is 200 feet long, 34 broad, and 32 feet high, and the south side is lighted by thirteen windows. A noble simplicity is apparent in the decorations, which are in the

Gothic style, and well befitting the purposes to which the room is appropriated. The ceiling contains the armorial bearings of all the Knights of the Garter, from its institution to the present time. On the north side of the room in recesses corresponding with the windows on the opposite side are portraits of the following English sovereigns :—

James I.	<i>Vandyck.</i>
Charles I.	<i>Ditto.</i>
Charles II.	<i>Sir Peter Lely.</i>
James II.	<i>Ditto.</i>
Mary II.	<i>Sir G. Kneller.</i>
William III.	<i>Ditto.</i>
Queen Anne.	<i>Ditto.</i>
George I.	<i>Ditto.</i>
George II.	<i>Zeeman.</i>
George III.	<i>Dupont.</i>
George IV.	<i>Sir T. Lawrence.</i>
William IV.	<i>Ditto.</i>

16. *The Queen's Presence Chamber*
The ceiling is embellished in the hyperbolical style of Verrio, and the walls are hung with Gobelin tapestry, representing the story of Queen Esther. This room contains only two paintings :

Two Princesses of Brunswick, 1609	<i>Unknown.</i>
Duchess of Orleans, youngest daughter of Charles I.	<i>Meneard.</i>

17. *The Queen's Audience Chamber*
Exhibits further specimens of Verrio's art ; and the tapestry on the walls is a continuation of the subject in the previous room. The following paintings are in this apartment, which completes the suite exhibited to the public :—

Portrait of Mary Queen of Scots	<i>Janette.</i>
Frederick, Prince of Orange, grandfather of William III.	<i>Vanhorst.</i>
William, Prince of Orange, father of William III.	<i>Ditto.</i>

THE ROUND TOWER.

The Round Tower, the ancient keep of the Castle, is also exhibited to the public. The views from the top are exceedingly beautiful, and so extensive as to embrace parts of the following twelve counties :—Middlesex, Essex, Hertford, Bucks, Berks, Wilts, Oxford, Hants, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and Bedford.

There is nothing very remarkable in the apartments, except in the Armoury, where there are some curious specimens of the cumbrous fire-arms that were carried by the infantry in the early days of gunpowder warfare, when matches held the place of flints, and the charge of powder was borne in little wooden boxes, hung about the shoulders. Here are two suits of mail, said to have belonged to John King of France, and David King of Scotland, who were prisoners in this tower. The legend is appropriate, but not trustworthy. This tower is famous in the romance of history as the prison for many years of King James I. of Scotland, a true as well as a royal poet.

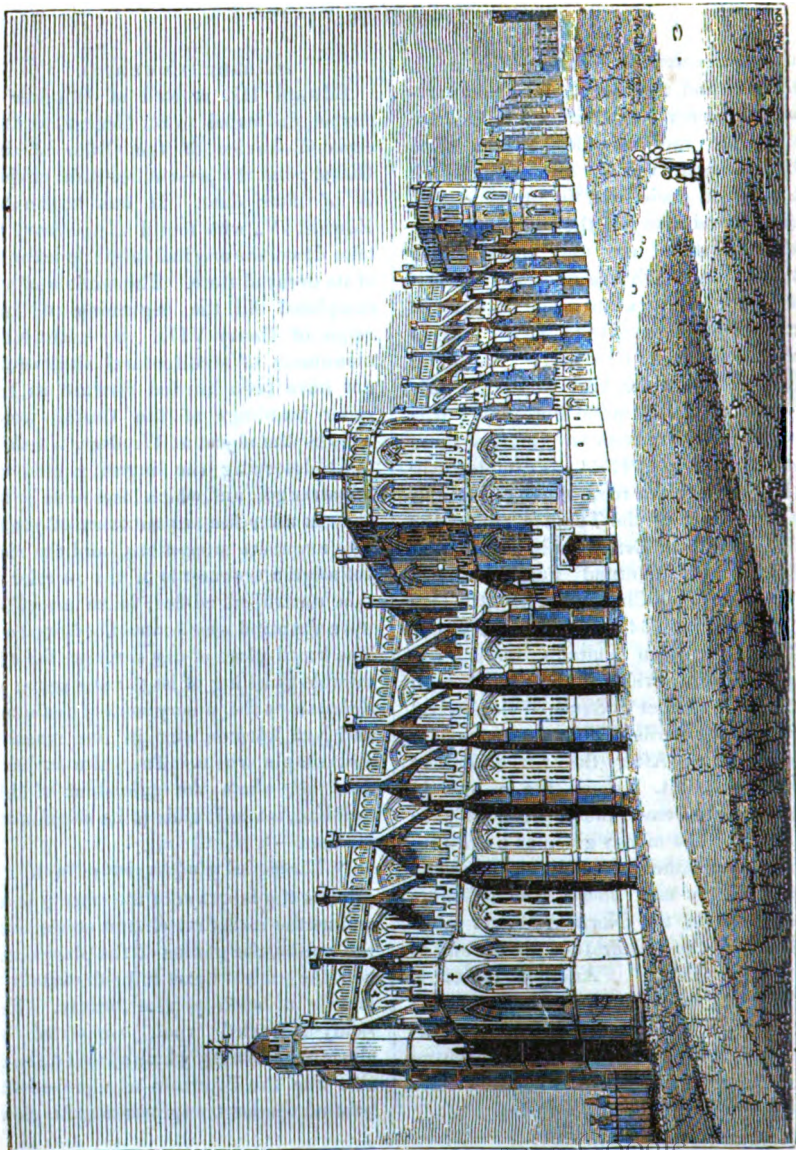
In one of Lady Mary Fox's annual volumes, published for the benefit of the Kensington school of Industry, there is an interesting record of other prisoners of less note, who have been confined at Windsor Castle, particularly of the faithful royalists who adhered to the cause of the unfortunate Charles I., some of whom traced with their own hands the records of their captivity in the Norman Tower. This tower is in that part of the castle which forms the

western entrance, between the north terrace and the keep, and the apartments formerly appropriated to the captives are now occupied by the state housekeeper. Various alterations which have been made from time to time have obliterated many of the sad memorials, so that there now only remain four tablets on which the names of the prisoners are engraven. The date in the majority of cases is 1648, a year fraught with disasters to Charles I. But there is one name which bears an earlier date—that of Sir Edmund Fortescue—who appears to have been an inmate of these apartments in 1642-43, as a tablet over the fire-place in a room which commands a fine view of the Thames and of the distant hills of Berkshire is inscribed as follows:—*S^r. Edmund Fortescue Prisoner In This Chamber The 12th Day of Januarie, 1642: Pour le Roy C.* The next room contains inscriptions which were evidently connected with the fatal conflict in South Wales several years afterwards. They bear the date of 1648. After the parliamentary victory of St. Fagons the estates of several gentlemen taken prisoners were sold, and the money given as a gratuity to the parliamentary soldiers. Deprived of property and liberty, the prisoners lingered in the Norman Tower until death or the Restoration put an end to their captivity. Another tablet is inscribed as follows:—*1648, Antho: Bayly. Pris: the 8. of Septem: Colches^r.* Bayly was one of the survivors of the memorable siege which Colchester sustained on behalf of Charles.

ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL.

Edward III. erected at Windsor a chapel dedicated to St. George, for the especial service of the Order of the Garter; but the present beautiful chapel is of later date. It was begun by Edward IV., who found it necessary to take down the original fabric on account of its decayed state. The work was not completed till the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. So beautiful a monument of architectural skill could not have been hurried forward as the ruder buildings of the Castle were. This is the object at Windsor, which is most deserving the lingering gaze of the stranger, and which loses none of its charms after the acquaintance of years. The exquisite proportions, and the rich yet solemn ornaments of the interior of this unrivalled edifice, leave an effect upon the mind which cannot be described. The broad glare of day displays the admirable finishing of its various parts, as elaborate as the joinery work of a cabinet, and yet harmonising in one massive and simple whole. The calm twilight does not abate the splendour of this building, while it adds to its solemnity; for then—

“The storied window, richly dight,”
catches the last rays of the setting sun; and as the cathedral chaunt steals over the senses, the genius of the place compels the coldest heart to be devout in a temple of such perfect beauty. The richly-decorated roof, supported on clustered columns, which spread on each side like the branches of a grove—the painted windows, representing in glow-



St. Lawrence Church — South Front

ing colours some remarkable subjects of Christian history—the banners and escutcheons of the Knights of the Garter, glittering in the choir above their carved stalls, within which are affixed the armorial bearings of each Knight Companion from the time of the founder, Edward III.; all these objects are full of interest, and powerfully seize upon the imagination. Though this building and its decorations are pre-eminently beautiful, it is perfectly of a devotional character; and if anything were wanting to carry the thoughts above the earth,

the observer must feel the vanity of all greatness and all honour, save the true and imperishable glory of virtue, when he here treads upon the graves of Edward IV. and Henry VI., of Henry VIII. and Charles I., and remembers that, distinguished as these monarchs were for contrasts of good and evil fortune, the pride, and the humility, the triumphs and the degradations of the one and the other are blended in the grave—

“Together meet the oppressor and th’ oppressed”—



[Interior of St. George's Chapel, Windsor.]

and they are now judged, as they wanted or exhibited those Christian excellencies which the humblest amongst us may attain.

There are not many monuments possessing merit as works of art in St. George's Chapel. The cenotaph of the Princess Charlotte is a performance of some excellence in particular figures; but as a whole, it is in vicious taste. Edward IV. is buried here, beneath the steel tomb of Quentin Matsys; his unhappy rival, Henry VI., lies in the opposite aisle, under a plain marble stone. Henry VIII. and Charles I. are entombed under the choir, without any memorial. At the foot of the altar is a subterranean passage communicating with the tomb-house, in which is the cemetery of the present race of kings.

THE PARKS.

Windsor Castle is surrounded on the north and south sides by a very beautiful domain called the Little Park. This park has no doubt been appurtenant to the Castle for a very long period. Here several of the most amusing scenes of Shakspeare's 'Merry Wives of Windsor' are laid; and until lately tradition pointed out a withered tree as the identical oak of "Herne the hunter."

"There is an old tale goes, that Herne the hunter,
Some time a keeper here in Windsor Forest,
Doth all the winter time, at still midnight,
Walk round about the oak with great ragged horns."

In the 'Pictorial Shakspeare' (Local

illustrations of Act V. of the 'Merry Wives of Windsor') the controversy respecting Herne's Oak is brought together; and, on the authority of George III., it is stated that this famous tree was inadvertently cut down when the king was a young man. Fortunately a sketch of it had been made before it was felled.

This Little Park was formerly part of Windsor Forest; but in progress of time the public road to the town was carried through it, and parcels of land surrounding the town became private property. In the reign of Queen Anne that part of Windsor Forest which remained the property of the Crown, under the name of the Great Park, was cut off from the Castle by the intervening private property. To remedy this inconvenience it was resolved, in that reign, to purchase as much land as might be required to complete an avenue leading from the Castle to the Forest. This was done, and the present Long Walk was formed.

The Long Walk is generally considered the finest thing of its kind in Europe. A perfectly straight road runs from the principal entrance of the Castle to the top of a commanding hill in the Great Park, called Snow Hill—a distance of more than three miles. On each side of the road, which is slightly elevated, is a double row of stately elms, now at their maturity,—some indeed beginning to show signs of decay. Nothing can be finer than the general effect of this immense vista. The stranger who is tempted to pursue the road to its termination on the hill is



[Herne's Oak.]

amply repaid by a most splendid prospect, of great extent, and comprehending objects of powerful interest. He is now upon the ridge, whose continuation about a mile to the eastward, leads to a spot which has given a name to the earliest, and in some respects the best, descriptive poem of our language,

‘Cooper’s Hill.’ Windsor Castle appears almost at his feet ; to his left is a magnificent expanse of forest scenery ; to his right is the Thames, seen beyond the little plain of Runnemede, where Magna Charta was extorted from King John by his barons. The hills in the distance are those of Harrow and Hampstead.

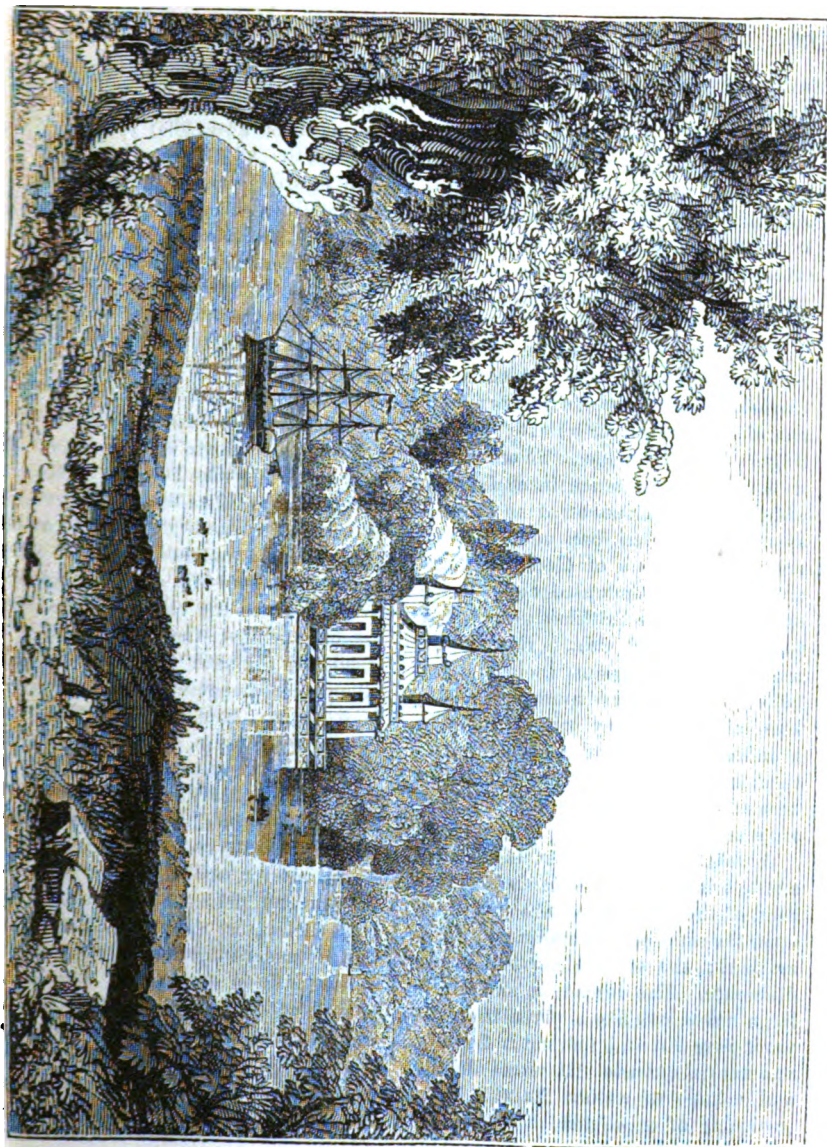
In 1832 a colossal equestrian statue of George III. was erected on the highest point of this hill. The figure terminates the avenue, at a distance of about three miles and a half from the Castle, and, of course, forms a prominent object at every step of the way. It is raised upon a mass of stones intended to represent a rock. The total elevation of the statue and its pedestal is more than fifty feet. The statue itself is twenty-six feet in height. The circumstance, however, of the gradual approach to it through a vista of very lofty trees, and the large forms of the trees immediately surrounding it, greatly diminish the effect of its gigantic proportions. Till the spectator approaches within a hundred yards, he does not feel that the figures are of colossal dimensions. The likeness of the face to George III. is very admirable; but those who recollect that monarch in his plain blue coat, or his military jack-boots, will have difficulty to recognise him in his Roman costume.

The walks and drives through the Park present scenes of great loveliness and variety. One of the most pleasing roads leads to a village on the verge of the Great Park called Blacknest. Here is an entrance to the fine lake amidst the woods called "Virginia Water," to which admission is given on application at the Keeper's Lodge. This district of the forest was planted, and the lake formed, under the direction of Paul Sandby, at a time when Duke William of Cumberland resided at the lodge

which bears his name, lying not far from the top of the Long Walk. The lake is the largest piece of artificial water in the kingdom; if artificial it can be called—for the hand of man has done little more than turn the small streams of the district into a natural basin. The grounds are several miles in extent; although so perfectly secluded that a traveller might pass on the high road without being aware that he was near any object that could gratify his curiosity. They are now covered with magnificent timber, originally planted with regard to the grandest effects of what is called landscape gardening.

Entering by the gate at Blacknest, we pass through a close wood of pines to some "alleys green," which lead in different directions. Those to the right carry us up a steep hill, upon the summit of which is a handsome building called the Belvedere. Those to the left conduct to the margin of the lake. A scene of great beauty soon bursts upon the view. A verdant walk, bounded by the choicest evergreens, leads by the side of a magnificent breadth of water. The opposite shore is covered with heath; and plantations of the most graceful trees—the larch, the ash, and the weeping birch, ("the lady of the woods,") break the line of the more distant hills. The boundary of the lake is everywhere most judiciously concealed;—and the imagination cannot refrain from believing that some great river lies beyond that screening wood. Every now and then the road carries us through some close

[Fishing Temple on Virginia Waters.]



walk of pines and laurels, where the rabbit and squirrel run across with scarcely a fear of man. But we again find ourselves upon the margin of the lake, which increases in breadth as we approach its head. At the point where it is widest, a fishing temple was erected by George IV.; which, as seen from the shore we are describing, is represented in the wood-cut.

The public road from the Western road to Sunninghill and Reading is carried over a bold arch which is not far out of the line of our walk. This is a singularly beautiful spot. To our minds it is not now so much in accordance with the general character of the scenery as it was some ten years ago. Several antique fragments of Greek columns and pediments, that used to lie in the court-yard of the British Museum, now form an artificial ruin. *Real ruins*, removed from the sites to which they belong, are the worst species of exotics. The tale which they tell of their old grandeur is quite out of harmony with their modern appropriation. The ruins here are prettily put together; but they are merely picturesque.

A walk from this spot of a quarter of a mile brings us to the cascade at the head of the lake. Cascades are much upon the same plan, whether natural or artificial; the scale alone makes the difference. This cascade is sufficiently large not to look like a plaything; and yet it gives but an imperfect notion of a fine natural cascade. It wants height, and volume of water. In the latter particular of excellence, however, the

grandest cascades are often very disappointing. After a mountain storm, when the *gills* (little runnels) sparkle down the sides of the barren rocks, and the *force* leaps over some fearful chasm in one unbroken sheet, cascades are worthy of the poetical descriptions which have been so often lavished upon them. In other seasons they appear very feeble additions to the charms of the mighty lakes and solemn mountains amidst whose solitudes they are found.

From the bottom of the cascade a road has been formed to the bank of the lake, opposite that which we have been describing. The walks here are as verdant and as beautiful as those we have left. We reach a rustic bridge, and cross one of the streams that feed the lake. Here we are in a more wild and open country. We may trace the course of the little stream amongst the underwood; or strike into the path which leads to the village of Bishopgate. The finest woodland scenery, and spots of the most delicious seclusion, where nothing is heard on a summer noon but that indescribable buzz with which every lover of solitude is familiar, will amply repay for a lingering hour. Bishopgate is a beautiful spot, surrounded by the most delightful varieties of hill and dale, of wood and water. The poet Shelley, who had a true eye for the picturesque, resided for some time here. The Royal Lodge, which was close by, (the favorite retreat of George IV.,) is now pulled down. The common road from Bishopgate to Windsor is through that vista of magnificent elms, the Long Walk al-

ready described. There is a more secluded horse-road, which affords some exquisite views of the Castle, and many forest scenes of striking beauty; or the pedestrian may take a foot-path leading through the plantations to Old Windsor Church, which stands in the extreme eastern point of the county, and in the very rural and solemn churchyard of which lies interred the celebrated Mrs. Robinson. From thence, returning to Windsor, by the road which leads from Egham through Runnymede and Old Windsor, the traveller will pass Frogmore, the elegant residence of the Princess Augusta. The gardens and

grounds comprise about thirteen acres laid out in the most approved style of horticultural taste. The flower parterres, lawns, and embowered walks, are everything which could be desired in a pleasure-ground, and the scene is diversified by a marine grotto, a Brahmin's hut, a temple dedicated to Solitude, an Italian temple, a hermitage, and a picturesque Gothic ruin, from a design by Mr. Wyatt, containing an oratory. A piece of water forms a refreshing feature in front of the principal apartments. The house and grounds may be visited occasionally in the absence of her royal highness.



[Scene in Windsor Forest.]

CHAPTER III.

WINDSOR TO READING.

THE traveller to whom the most direct communication is the most desirable, having to proceed from Windsor to Reading, will return to Slough, and continue by the railway. To the lover of fine scenery, on the other hand, nothing can be more interesting than several of the high-roads, particularly those of the district formerly known as Windsor Forest. There is a choice of routes.

THE FOREST ROAD.

Leaving Windsor by Peascod Street, we reach a suburb called Spital, and then on to CLEWER GREEN, in Clewer parish, which extends into and comprises a considerable portion of the town of Windsor. The village of Clewer is situated on the bank of the Thames, about one mile west of Windsor. Amongst other memorials in the parish church is a brass, on which are some lines commemorative of Martin Expence, who shot a match of archery against one hundred men, near Bray. The road continues through some of the finest scenery of the Great Park, passing under the beautiful seats of St. Leonard's Hill and St. Leonard's Dale, on to Winkfield Plain. WINKFIELD is sur-

rounded by several agreeable seats : Cranbourn Lodge, built by the Earl of Ranelagh, in the reign of Charles II., the successive residence of several members of the royal family, is now pulled down. There is an endowment in this parish for educating and clothing twenty-one boys and twenty-one girls, and 5*l.* is paid as a premium on their being apprenticed. Attached to the school is a chapel in which service is performed ; and the annual value of the endowment is said to amount to 250*l.* per annum. The school-house was built in 1710 by the Earl of Ranelagh. Ascot, where one of the chief racing meetings in the kingdom is held, is in the parish of Winkfield. Warfield is a parish containing a considerable hamlet, Bracknell, where three annual fairs are held.

BINFIELD, three miles from Wokingham, and about eight from Windsor, is situated on the northern border of the heaths which extend along the southern edge of the county. Besides Binfield Manor House and Binfield Place there are several other seats in the neighbourhood.

Henry, Earl of Sterling, secretary of state for Scotland, who died in 1739,

Admiral Sir Edward Vernon, who took Pondicherry, and Mrs. Catherine Mauley Graham, authoress of a history of England, are interred at Binfield. It is, however, most celebrated as having been the residence of Pope from the early age of six until he removed to Twickenham. The father of the poet, having accumulated a considerable fortune by business in London, retired to this place during the infancy of his son, and here purchased a house and estate. Speaking of this house, Pope calls it

—“my paternal cell.
A little house, with trees a-row,
And, like its master, very low.”

About half a mile from the house, an interesting memorial of the poet still remains, or at least did so a few years since, when the writer last visited the spot. There is here a fine grove of beeches, pleasantly situated on the gentle slope of a hill, which commands an agreeable though not extensive view of the surrounding country. This grove was a favourite resort of Pope's, who is said to have composed many of his earlier pieces sitting under the shade of one of the trees, below which a seat was then placed. The recollection of this circumstance was preserved by Lady Gower, an admirer of the poet, who caused the words “*HERE POPE SANG*” to be cut in large letters in the bark, at some height from the ground; and as this inscription, at the time we mention, was distinctly legible, it was no doubt, at one period, occasionally renewed. About seventeen years ago, when first

seen by the writer, the tree was standing in a sound state, and apparently little injured by time, although the bark, to the height of seven or eight feet, was nearly covered with the names of visitors, many of which, with the dates, were cut deeply into it. When the writer last saw this interesting relic of the poet, a year or two after his first visit, it presented a sad appearance of dilapidation; the upper part of the tree having been entirely broken off by a violent storm which had happened a short time previous, and lying prostrate on the ground, stripped of its branches, as shown in a drawing, which was made at the time, of which the engraving is a copy. It is somewhat remarkable that none of the neighbouring trees were injured by the storm, which thus destroyed the object which, for near a century, had consecrated the spot.

Bill Hill, a little to the left of the road, in the parish of Hurst, is a seat of the Gower family. Bambridge House occupies an eminence in the vicinity; and near it is Haines Hill Park. Billingbear Park is on the left before reaching Binfield; and Bear Wood about a mile beyond Bill Hill.

About five miles from Reading, the road from Windsor enters into the great Bath Road, described in the next chapter.

THE WOKINGHAM ROAD.

The road from Windsor to Wokingham is in fact the same as that last described; but it may be varied by branching more into Windsor Forest in the direction of Sunning Hill and Bagshot.



[I'ope's Tree at Binfield.]

WOKINGHAM, or **Oakingham**, a market town in the precincts of Windsor Forest, about seven miles E.S.E. from Reading. The parish is partly in Berkshire and partly in an insulated district of Wiltshire; the chief part of the town, however, is in the former. Wokingham consists of several streets meeting in a common centre, where they inclose a spacious area, comprising a neat market-place and the principal shops. The market is held by prescription: in 1227 the bishop of Salisbury procured a grant from the king, that he might hold the market here peaceably. In 1258 the same bishop had the grant of two fairs. The church, which stands in the Wilts district, is a large handsome structure, and contains a monument to Thomas Godwin, bishop of Bath and Wells, who lies buried here. There are places of worship for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists. In the parish register is a record of the burial of Thomas Buck in 1682 at the age of 115. The town-hall and market-house is a very ancient building, framed with timber. There is an abundant supply of water from the wells. The atmosphere of Wokingham is considered peculiarly pure and healthy, and the inhabitants are noted for longevity. The market, held on Tuesday, is famous for the great quantity of poultry generally offered for sale, and which is bought by higglers to be retailed in London. The fairs are held on the 23rd of April, 11th of June, 11th of October, and 2nd of November: the two first, however, are insignificant, and not even held with regularity. The inhabitants are princi-

pally employed in the malting and flour trades, in throwing silk, and in the manufacture of gauze and shoes. The woollen manufactory was also formerly carried on. The government of the town is vested in an alderman and eleven burgesses. A court of quarter sessions sits twice in the year: the ancient (Windsor) forest courts were also held in Wokingham. The free schools, supported by bequests and subscriptions, educate thirty-six boys and twelve girls. There are two day and Sunday schools on the national system, in which above two hundred children of both sexes are instructed: the school-house is a substantial building, erected at an expense of 700*l*. The charities are numerous. The principal is the hospital on Luckley Green, a mile out of the town, founded by Henry Lucas, Esq., in 1665, for sixteen poor pensioners and a master, under the direction of the Drapers' Company. The hospital is a handsome brick building, which cost 2300*l*.; attached to it is a chapel with a residence for the minister, who is the perpetual curate of the parish. There are also almshouses for sixteen men and women, the foundation of Mr. Thomas Westead in 1451.

The well-known song of 'Molly Mog' is connected with the Rose Inn here, which was kept by the father of the fair one. The current tradition of the place is, that Swift, Gay, and other poetic friends, having met upon some occasion to dine at the Rose, and being detained within doors by the weather, it was proposed that they should write a song, and that

each person present should contribute a verse: the subject proposed was the Fair Maid of the Inn, who, according to Lysons, died a spinster at the age of 67: Lysons states that the other party alluded to in this production was the last heir male of the Standen family of Arborfield.

Near Luckley Green is a chalybeate spring, called Gerrick Well.

About three and a half miles south of Wokingham is FINCHAMPSTEAD, which had once an annual fair, long since discontinued. The right of holding a fair is one of the privileges of the manor of West Court in this parish.

About two and a half miles south-east of Finchampstead, and five from Wokingham, is SANDHURST, and in that part of the parish which abuts on the London and Exeter road is the Royal Military College for the instruction of cadets for the army, and where commissioned officers prepare themselves for the higher branches of their profession. The college is a plain edifice with a Doric portico, and is calculated to accommodate four hundred cadets and thirty students of the senior class, with the officers and masters of the institution. A chapel, an observatory, and a riding-school appertain to the college, and the whole suite of buildings stands in the midst of a plantation and pleasure ground. The Royal Military College was commenced at High Wycombe in 1799; three years afterwards it was removed to Great Marlow; and in 1812 the institution was placed at Sandhurst. Just at the southern extremity of the

parish of Sandhurst, not far from the college, stands an obelisk, which it is said may be seen on a clear day from Hampstead Heath with a good telescope.

Leaving Wokingham by the road to Staines, we have EASTHAMPSTEAD on the right, three miles from Wokingham, and about one and a half mile from the road. In the reign of Richard II. (1377—1399) there was a royal hunting-seat here, which appears to have been used occasionally down to the reign of James I. On one occasion, when Queen Catherine was at Easthampstead Park, Henry VIII. sent some of the lords of the council to her there to prevail upon her to consent to a divorce. In the parish church are interred Sir William Farnbull, secretary of state in the reign of William III., and Fenton, the poet, both friends of Pope, who wrote each of their epitaphs. Easthampstead Park is the seat of the Marquis of Downshire.

About one and a half south of Easthampstead Park, and three and a half miles from Wokingham, is the spot called Cæsar's Camp, an irregular fortification occupying the summit of an eminence, and flanked by a double ditch. Within a mile southward of Cæsar's Camp, on Easthampstead Plains, are traces of a Roman road, now called the Devil's Causeway, or the Devil's Highway. In the section on 'Roman Roads and Stations in Berkshire,' which the bishop of Cloyne contributed to Lysons' History, the following account is given of this road:—"The Roman road from Silchester to

London passed in all probability through the south-eastern borders of the county, by Park Lane, Stanford, and Finchampstead. Traces of it appear for some miles on Bagshot Heath, not far from Wickham Bushes, where it is called the Devil's Causeway, being raised, with a trench on each side of it, and not less than ninety feet wide: it seems to bear for Old Windsor or Staines, in a line on the other side of which, on Hounslow Heath, it was plainly discovered by General Roy, at the side of our modern western road. It must also be observed, that near the course we suppose this Roman road to have taken, about a quarter of a mile from Bagshot Park, and at the same distance from the cross road leading from Bagshot to Bracknell, in a farm above Heatly Bottom, called Roundabout, Roman pottery has been found, and part of a Roman camp: the same kind of pottery has also been found in great abundance near Wickham Bushes, all which tends to confirm the idea that the great western road to London in the time of the Romans passed through or near this part of the county of Berks." Near this road is Wishmoor Cross.

On the north-east we have Bagshot Heath. The village of Bagshot is in Surrey, but a part of the heath is in the parish of Wokingham. The southern extremity of Bagshot Park, the residence of the late Duke of Gloucester, is just within the limits of Berkshire.

Previous to reaching the main Bath road, we cross the Loddon, and pass White Knights, about two miles from

Reading. This is a plain white building, situated in the centre of grounds, remarkable for the combination of the useful with the agreeable, and once celebrated for the extensive botanical gardens containing a valuable collection of rare exotics. It is said that White Knights was one of the earliest examples in this country of the *Ferme Ornée*. The grounds were formed by the late Duke of Marlborough, when Marquis of Blandford.

BY TWYFORD.

There is a very quiet and in many parts picturesque road from Windsor to Twyford, and this way is considerably shorter than either of the others. But, except in dry weather, it is scarcely passable. It passes through green lanes from Windsor to Oakley Green, Tutchen End, Fifield Green, White Waltham, Shottesbrooke, and St. Laurence Waltham, and gains the main road at Twyford.

At WHITE WALTHAM was a manor which formed part of the endowment of the college at Shottesbrooke. According to Hearne, Prince Arthur, son of Henry VII., once resided in the ancient manor-house, which was surrounded by a moat. The parish church contains a monument of Sir Constantine Phipps, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, an ancestor of the Marquis of Normanby. Hearne, the antiquary, whose father was parish clerk of White Waltham, was born here in 1678.

The parish church of SHOTTESBROOKE, a handsome edifice, in the form of a

cross, contains monuments of Sir William Trussell, the founder, and his lady ; also one of his daughters, with her effigy in brass, having a richly ornamented head-dress. There are several other effigies in brass ; and monuments of Henry Dodwell, Camden, professor of history at Oxford in the early part of last century, and of Francis Cherry, his friend, and the patron of Hearne, the antiquary.

At Shottesbrooke was formerly a small religious house, founded in 1337 by Sir W. Trussell, of Cublesdon in Staffordshire. The foundation consisted of a college and chantry, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, for one warden, five priests, and two clerks. Although Sir William took care to have it well endowed, yet, in the course of a few years, owing to fire and other accidents, the foundation was reduced to such a deplorable condition, that the whole establishment, with the exception of John Bradford, the warden, quitted it. The circumstances at length reaching the king's ears, he gave license to impropriate the church of Battlesden, in this county, to it ; which was accordingly done in 1380. Having received so considerable an accession to its

revenues, together with other benefactions, it continued in a flourishing state till it was suppressed with other religious houses in the reign of Henry VIII. The last warden was Sir William Throckmorton, who lies buried in the parish church.

Shottesbrooke House is a substantial brick castellated edifice, ornamented in parts with stucco, and surmounted by an embattled parapet. A neat corridor leads to the interior from the garden. The manor of Shottesbrooke was anciently held by a singular service, that of providing charcoal to make the crown and other regalia for the king's coronation, the sum of sixty shillings and tenpence being allowed for the same. This singular tenure originated in the time of William Rufus, when the manor of *Sottesbrok*, as it was then called, was held by Alward the goldsmith. A family who took their name from the village, were the most ancient possessors of this demesne, of whom mention is found. It passed from their hands in the beginning of the 14th century, and was afterwards in the possession of several families until the year 1713, when the representative of F. Cherry, Esq., sold it to an ancestor of the Vansittart family.

CHAPTER IV.

MAIDENHEAD TO READING.

By the railway the Maidenhead station is only four miles from the one at Slough. The London and Bath road enters Berkshire at Maidenhead, which is twenty-five and a half miles from London. We may either proceed to Reading by the railway, a distance of nearly fourteen miles, or pursue the highway. In the latter case the traveller will pass through or near to the places subsequently described, commencing at Maidenhead.

MAIDENHEAD is a small but neat town, a little way from the Thames, which is crossed by a handsome bridge. The town was formerly called South Ealington, and the name Maidenhead was said to have been given to it from the veneration paid to the head of one of the eleven thousand British virgins who, according to an ancient but fabulous legend, were martyred by Attila, king of the Huns; but as in the most ancient records it is written Maidenhithe or Maydenehythe,* it is more likely that the name was first given to the spot where Maidenhead bridge now crosses

the Thames, where was formerly a great wharfrage of timber and firewood. There has been a bridge at this spot from an early date, certainly from the thirteenth century, and the erection of it diverted the course of the great western road, which appears before that time to have crossed the river about two miles higher, at Babham Ferry, near Cookham. From this change of the road the town of Maidenhead took its rise, and it soon outstripped Bray, which may be considered its mother-town, and in which parish it partly stands.

Maidenhead consists of one long paved street. It has a chapel, erected of late years on the site of a former one taken down as being too small. The bridge consists of seven semicircular arches of stone, and three smaller arches of brick at each end. There is an almshouse founded by James Smith, Esq., in 1659, between the bridge and the town, for eight poor men and their wives. The chief trade of the place is in meal, malt, and timber; and it is a great thoroughfare, in consequence of which there are several inns. The market is on Wednesday, and is a considerable mart for corn. There are three fairs. Maidenhead has a corporation, consisting of a

* Hithe is a word of Saxon origin (*hæh*, a ditch or trench), and is said to signify a small port or quay; thus we have Lamb-hithe or Lambeth, Queenhithe; Hythe on the Kent coast, &c.

mayor, high steward, steward or recorder, and eleven burgesses, two of whom are annually chosen bridge-masters. The mayor, high steward, steward, and the mayor of the preceding year are justices of the peace; and the mayor presides in a court for the recovery of small debts, which is held every three weeks. The corporation have the power of making bye-laws, and there is a jail for debtors and felons. The corporation revenues consist chiefly of the tolls of the markets and the bridge. The town is in the parishes of Cookham and Bray; the chapel is in the former. The minister is appointed by the mayor and bridge-masters, and is said to be exempt from episcopal jurisdiction. The population, owing to the town not forming a distinct parish, cannot be given. It is probably about 1500. There are a National school and a Sunday school, and three dissenting places of worship.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the left of Maidenhead is BRAY (near the road from Maidenhead to Windsor), which gives name to a hundred, and in the parish of which, as already stated, the town of Maidenhead partly stands. It is celebrated for the versatility of principle manifested by one of its incumbents, whence 'the Vicar of Bray' has become a proverbial expression for a man who can shift his principles with the times. The well-known song of 'the Vicar of Bray' represents this personage as living in the time of Charles II. and his successors, down to George I.; but Fuller, in his 'Worthies of England,' gives the following account:—"The vivacious

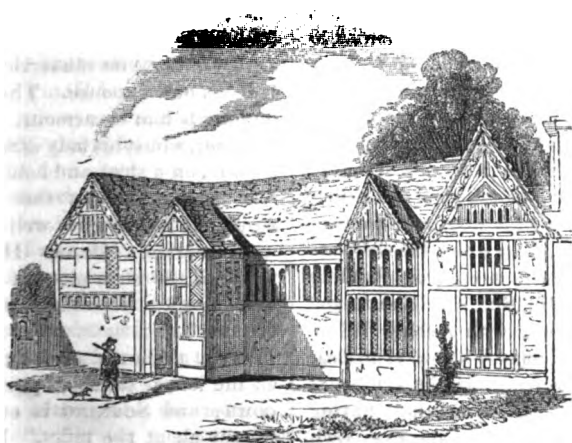
vicar hereof, living under King Henry VIII., King Edward VI., Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth, was first a Papist, then a Protestant, then a Papist, then a Protestant again. He had seen some martyrs burnt (two miles off) at Windsor, and found this fire too hot for his tender temper. This vicar being taxed by one for being a turn-coat, and an unconstant changeling, 'Not so,' said he, 'for I always kept my principle, which is this, to live and die the vicar of Bray.' Such many, now-a-days, who, though they cannot turn the wind, will turn their mills, and set them so, that wheresoever it bloweth, their grist shall certainly be grinded." (Vol. i. p. 79, Nichols' edit. 1811.)

About one mile westward of Bray is OCKWELLS, formerly called Ockholt, a most interesting specimen of the old manor-house. The hall windows contain the arms of England with antelopes as supporters, from which circumstance, Lysons conjectures that Ockwells was built in the reign of Henry VI., he being the only English sovereign who introduced them in his arms. This inference is correct; for Henry died in 1461, and in 1465, John Norreys (probably a descendant of Richard de Norreys, cook to Eleanor, queen of Henry III., who had granted Ockholt to the said Richard) made a will in which he left a certain sum for the completion of the present mansion, "to the full building and making uppe of the chapell, with the chamber adjoyning, within my mannor of Ockholt, in the parish of Bray, not yet finished." About sixty years ago, a

considerable portion of the manor-house was burnt down, a beggar having set fire to some straw in shaking out the unextinguished ashes of his pipe. The portion now existing is a farm-house in the possession of John Shackell, Esq. The numerous gables of the old mansion are most striking and picturesque, and the porch and corridor have a quaintness united with simplicity which renders them very pleasing. Unfortunately the effect of the fine old carved roof of the hall is injured by a flat ceiling. The large window of six bays is in a very perfect state. The windows are chiefly occupied with coats of arms, having crests and lambrequins, one in each window, on a ground of diagonal stripes, containing flowers and mottoes in text hand, placed alternately. Among the arms are those of King Henry the

Sixth, with the antelopes, his supporters; and of his queen, Margaret of Anjou, with her supporters, the antelope and eagle; also the arms of Norreys, with beavers for supporters; the Abbey of Westminster; Beaufort, Duke of Somerset; Edmund, last Earl of March; Henry, Duke of Warwick; De la Pole, Duke of Suffolk; Sir William Beauchamp, Lord St. Amand; Sir William Lacon of Bray, Chief Justice of the King's Bench; the Lord Wenlock; Sir Richard Nanfan, Captain of Calais; Sir John Pury, Knight, of Chamberhouse Castle, in the parish of Thatcham, and of one or two other distinguished personages.

The arms of King Henry VI., Queen Margaret, and the Norreys family, are the most striking. In the compartment containing the first there is the crown



[Manor-house, Ockwells.]

with the arms of England beneath ; and down the window are repetitions of the motto, "Dieu et mon Droit," running obliquely from left to right. In another compartment, devoted to Queen Margaret of Anjou, there is the crown of the Queen Consort, with the arms beneath, and, running from left to right as in the last instance are repetitions of the Queen's motto, "Humble et Loiall." In the compartment of the Norreys family, there are the family arms, and numerous repetitions of the family motto, "Feythfully serve," with the name *Norrys* at the left hand bottom corner.

In a very beautiful work by Mr. Nash, entitled 'The Mansions of England in the Olden Time,' there are three different views of this old house; and in concluding his account of Ockwells he says:—"Altogether, this house is well deserving the attention of the architect as well as the antiquary; for it offers many features that might be adapted to the present style of building country residences of moderate dimensions."

On the direct road, about two miles from Maidenhead, is **MAIDENHEAD THICKET**, in former times a notorious resort of highwaymen. The course of the road is through a beautiful woodland country past Folly Hill, from which the views are particularly fine; next past Reading Pond, Vines Hill, Stubbing Heath, and Littlewick Green, with Ashley Hill on the right, and then past Knowl Hill, Bear Hill, Kiln Green, and Scarlet's, to—

TWYFORD, so called from there having been two fords here over the river Loddon, not far from its confluence with the

Thames. Twyford is a chapelry within the parish of Hurst, and is distant about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the parish church, but in 1721 an episcopal chapel was built at the expense of Edward Polehampton, Esq. He also founded a charity school for the education of ten boys; and in 1640, Lady Frances Winchcombe left a charitable provision for six poor persons. The parish of Hurst is very extensive, and consists of four liberties, each of which appoints its own local officers. The manor was originally granted by King Edgar to the abbot and convent of Abingdon. In the church are some handsome monuments, particularly the two following:—A monument to Lady Margaret Saville, wife of the learned and munificent Sir Henry Saville, warden of Merton College, Oxford, and founder of the professorships known by his name in that university; and one to Sir Richard Harrison and his lady. Sir Richard on two different occasions raised a troop of horse for the service of Charles I. at his own expense. The monument represents him in armour, kneeling on one knee, whilst his lady is reclining with one arm on a stool, and holding a broken cord in the hand of the other. The figures by Stanton are well executed in white marble. Haines Hill, in this parish, is the birth-place of Sir Francis Windebank, Secretary of State to Charles I.

About a mile and a half from Twyford, on the left, is the small parish of **RUSCOMB**; and **SONNING** is on the right, distant about two miles. It is in the hundred of Sonning, and is distant about

three miles N.E. from Reading, on the banks of the Thames, over which there is here a bridge. It has been said that this place was a bishop's see, during the separation of Wiltshire, and, as some suppose, Berkshire, from the see of Sherbourn; but Bishop Tanner's editor, on the authority of William of Malmesbury, who expressly says that Wiltshire only was separated from Sherbourn, is of opinion that the bishops of the new see had no other seat than Ramsbury, until Bishop Herman removed to Old Sarum. It is certain that the bishops of Salisbury held the manor of Sonning at the time of the conquest, and that the manor house was, for some centuries afterwards, their occasional residence. Isabel, queen of Richard II., lived at Sonning during the interval between the deposition and death of that unfortunate king. Leland describes the mansion, in his time, as a "fair old house of stone," and that there was "thereby a fair parke." There are various monu-

ments in the parish church, and between the body of the chancel and its north aisle, a beautiful pointed arch, elaborately enriched with figures of saints, &c. The parish is extensive, containing no less than 7000 acres, exclusive of that portion of it which is within the adjoining insulated district of Wiltshire. Woodley Lodge, once the property and residence of Lord Sidmouth, is in this parish; also Early Court, which stands near the London and Bath Road. Holme Park stands near the bridge of Sonning, upon an eminence overlooking the Thames and the beautiful valley through which the river winds for some distance, and is lost among the remote hills. Holme Park is a handsome modern-looking edifice, square, and built of white brick. The principal front has a bold circular portico.

Pursuing the main road, we reach Reading in the course of five miles.

MAIDENHEAD TO READING, BY HENLEY.

THIS is a route which is only likely to be adopted by the traveller who is making a pleasure-tour, for though it presents some of the most beautiful scenery of which England can boast, yet a considerable detour from the direct road must be made in order to enjoy it. The following directions will be found useful to the tourist, who we may assume is a pedestrian, or travelling on horseback, or in his own vehicle:—

Immediately on entering Berkshire, by the bridge at Maidenhead, there is a road near the banks of the Thames leading to Cookham, past Taplow Mills, Ray Mills, and over Milbrook Common, which affords views of the most beautiful scenery of the hanging woods, above which stand Cliefden and Hedsor, Taplow House, Taplow, Taplow Lodge, on the Buckinghamshire side of the river. The scenery of the Thames,

from Maidenhead to Wargrave, is of the highest order of beauty; but a description of it more properly belongs to Buckinghamshire.

COOKHAM, which gives its name to a hundred, is about three miles north of Maidenhead. It had formerly a market, and has still a fair, and a statute for hiring servants. Maidenhead is partly in this parish. The church contains several monuments of the families of the old gentry who have been settled here at various periods. Near the chancel is a brass plate to the memory of a former vicar of the parish, who is styled, "Pylgrim of Jerusalem, and canon professed of the house of our lady at Gisborough, in Yorkshire." A bridge has been erected this year over the Thames by which a communication is effected between Maidenhead, and High Wycombe.

Passing over Cookham Common we reach BISHAM, four miles and a half north-west of Maidenhead, and about one mile from Great Marlow, in Buckinghamshire. A monastery was founded here in 1357, and endowed with 300*l.* per annum by William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury. Many noble personages were interred in the conventual church,—among whom were William, Earl of Salisbury, the son of the founder, who distinguished himself at Poitiers; Thomas, Earl of Salisbury, who died at the siege of Orleans in 1428; Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury and Warwick, beheaded at York in 1460 for his attachment to the Lancastrian cause; Richard Neville, the great Earl of

Warwick and Salisbury, and his brother John, Marquess of Mountague, both of whom fell at the battle of Barnet in 1470; and Edward Plantagenet, Earl of Warwick, son of the Duke of Clarence, beheaded in 1499 for attempting to escape from confinement. Such were the stormy lives and eventful histories of the aristocracy of England at this period! The splendid monuments to the memory of these men, which Bisham once contained were destroyed after the dissolution of the abbey. The prior of Bisham at its surrender was made a bishop, and afterwards married and had five daughters, each of whom married a bishop. A pointed door-way, which forms the entrance to the mansion of Bisham Abbey, is the only existing remains of the old conventual building. In an aisle or chapel adjoining the parish church is a richly ornamented window, and a monument with effigies in armour of two of the Hoby family. This chapel was built by one of the learned daughters of Sir Anthony Coke, wife of Sir Thomas Hoby, and the epitaph in Latin verse on her husband's monument was written by her.

HURLEY, about five miles from Maidenhead, and about four from Henley on Thames, not far from the Oxford road, is pleasantly situated in a valley, sheltered on both sides of the river by gently-descending and well-wooded hills. It has an ancient and retired look, the houses are old and built partly of timber, with deep porches and seats, covered with mosses and vines, con-

trasting somewhat singularly with the smart inn and new toll-house at the entrance of the village. The church, which stands near the manor house is old and plain. The view from the hills above the village of Hurley is very fine.

Hurley House, associated with our recollections of a great event in English history—the Revolution of 1688—was pulled down a few years ago. It was situated in one of the most picturesque windings of the Thames, the grounds extending to the banks of the river. The site of Hurley House was a Benedictine monastery, founded in the reign of William the Conqueror, and dedicated to the Virgin; hence the house, which was built about the beginning of the seventeenth century, was termed Lady Place. The manor came into the possession of the Lovelace family in the sixteenth century; and the house was built by Sir Richard Lovelace, who was “knighted in the wars,” as his epitaph declared, and who was reputed to have acquired a large sum of money on a sea expedition with Sir Francis Drake. His son was made Baron Lovelace of Hurley.

The house was a most perplexing labyrinth of dark rooms running one into the other,—and of “passages that lead to nothing.” The hall, which was of large size and lofty dimensions, had two entrances, one from the garden, and one from the grounds leading to the Thames. The ceiling was covered with plaster mouldings of elegant flowing scroll-work, intermixed with fruit and flowers; and the walls were also ornamented with

groups of musical instruments, books, &c., inclosed in borders, all of plaster. On one side of this spacious apartment was a staircase leading to a balcony running round it, from which were doors to rooms on the second story. The rooms were panelled, as was also the hall or saloon; the panels being painted with landscapes, or else carved in arches and lozenges. The landscapes were about fifty in number, painted in a broad and free manner: they have been attributed to Salvator Rosa, but we believe they were the work of Antonio Tempesta. The lower rooms, with their large bay windows and painted and carved panellings, must have been, especially when filled with the massive antique furniture of the period, extremely rich, light, and imposing. But the upper rooms, which were not intended for show, presented a great contrast; they exhibited little either of elegance or comfort. The gutters from the roof ran through them, by which the external air was freely admitted at all seasons, as well as a copious share of the rain.

In the reign of James II., John, Lord Lovelace, “kept house” at Lady Place with a profuse hospitality that afterwards ate like a canker into his fortune. But it was under cover of this hospitality that the meetings of the noblemen of England were held, which resulted in the Revolution of 1688. The vault under the hall of the house was the burial vault of the monastery which formerly occupied the site: an inscription on the floor records that

"Three bodies in Benedictine habits were found under this pavement." The ceiling of the vault is about six feet and a half high. The following inscription records the chief facts connected with the history of the vault :—

"DUST AND ASHES,
"Mortality and Vicissitude to all.

• "Be it remember'd that the Monastery of Lady Place (of which this Vault was the *Burial Cavern*) was founded at the time of the great Norman *Revolution*; by which *Revolution* the whole state of England was changed.

Hi motus animorum; atque hæc certamina tanta
Pulveris exigui jacta compressa quiescunt.

• "Be it also remembered, that in this place six hundred years afterwards the *Revolution* of 1688 was begun. This House was then in the Possession of the Family of Lord Lovelace; by whom private meetings of the Nobility were Assembled in the Vault; and it is said that several consultations for calling in the Prince of Orange were held in this Recess. On which account this Vault was Visited by that powerful Prince after he had ascended the Throne."

[The inscription also farther recorded the visits of General Paoli in 1780 and of George III. and his queen in 1785.]

Lord Lovelace was rewarded by King William with the post of Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners. He fitted up Lady Place with great splendour, and lived in a style which involved him so much in debt, that the greater portion of his estate was sold under a decree of the Court of Chancery. The house then passed through various hands. In 1837 its dilapidation condemned it to be pulled down.

Leaving Hurley we proceed to Prospect Hill and Rose Hill, from which

the road passes direct to Henley, but the tourist who wishes to follow more closely the course of the Thames will proceed by Culham Court, Aston, and Remenham. There is also a road from Henley to Reading which partly follows the windings of the Thames on the Buckinghamshire side of the river.

REMENHAM is about a mile and a half from Henley. Park Place, once the seat of Marshal Conway, is in the parish, a short distance south of the road leading to Henley. The mansion is situated at an elevation of about three hundred feet above the Thames on a range of hills which bounds the river for several miles. The grounds command a view of the town of Henley, an extensive and varied prospect of the high lands in Oxfordshire; and the Thames is one of the chief features of the landscape. In the park is a Druidical temple brought from Jersey, and presented to Marshal Conway, governor of the island, by whom it was removed to its present situation. There is a subterranean passage, nearly one hundred and seventy yards long leading to a valley planted with cypress, at the end of which is a ruin representing a Roman amphitheatre. Across the road leading from Wargrave to Henley is a large arch constructed partly of blocks of material taken entire from the ruins of Reading Abbey.

WARGRAVE, on the banks of the Thames, about three and a half miles from Henley, and about midway between Maidenhead and Reading, gives its name to the hundred. It had formerly

[Ventile at Lady Place.]



a market, granted in 1218 to the bishop of Winchester. Queen Emma, mother of Edward the Confessor, gave the manor and hundred to the see of Winchester. Bear Place, an elegant modern mansion, is finely situated on an elevated spot surrounded by woodlands. The parish church contains a monument to the memory of Mr. Thomas Day, author of 'Sandford and Merton,' who died in 1789 at the age of 41. The lines on his monument were written by himself

for another person, and were placed here by his widow. Derham, author of the "Physico-Theology," was vicar of the parish from 1682 to 1689.

Leaving Wargrave the road recedes from the river, and at a distance of about a mile and a half from the village, in a direction nearly due south, joins the London and Bath road at Twyford. The route from Twyford to Reading is given in the preceding part of this chapter.

CHAPTER V.

READING.

BETWEEN Maidenhead and Reading there is an intermediate station on the line of the railway at Twyford. Reading is also on the great Bath road, whose course from its entrance into the county to Reading is described in chapter iv. As the county town of Berkshire, and one to which the facility of access, especially from London, has been so much increased since the opening of the Great Western Railway, we have devoted a considerable space to an account of its history, antiquities, and present state.

Reading is pleasantly situated on the Kennett, chiefly on the left bank, about a mile or a mile and a half before it flows into the Thames. Reading lies thirty-eight miles in a straight line west by south of St. Paul's, London; or thirty-eight miles (measured from Hyde Park Corner) by the road through Windsor Great Park; or thirty-nine through Maidenhead, the latter being the great line of road from London to Bath and Bristol. The Great Western Railway, which passes through the northern suburbs of Reading, brings it in reality more than one-half nearer to London than these distances. Letters are conveyed from London twice a-day

by the railway, and the communication by post is as rapid as between the extremities of the metropolis.

Reading is not only the county town, but also a parliamentary as well as a municipal borough, and returns two members. The town is wholly within the limits of the borough, which consists of the entire parish of St. Lawrence, and parts of the parishes of St. Mary and St. Giles. The borough boundaries are well known, and remain unaltered from a very early period: the limits of the parliamentary borough are identical with those of the municipal, and comprise about 2080 English statute acres. The origin of the name is generally ascribed to *rhyd*, a ford, and *ing*, a meadow. The earliest historical notice of Reading occurs in the ninth century. Ivor, a Danish freebooter, landed at Southampton in the year 868 with a considerable army; and marching into the interior of the country, fixed his head quarters at Reading. About two years after this, Ivor was followed by Hinguar and Hubba, who brought with them a still more numerous army. These chieftains, after defeating and killing the king of the East Angles, marched to Reading. There they dug



[Reading from Cavenham Hill.]

a trench for the better defence of the town, running from north to south between the Thames and the Kennett. In the battle of Englefield, which immediately succeeded, the Danes were beaten, and pursued to Reading by Ethelred and his brother Alfred, afterwards so distinguished as the Great. Various other engagements took place in the neighbourhood, in one of which Earl Ethelwolph, the English leader, was slain, during a rally from the town. Ultimately a treaty was concluded, by which the Danes agreed to quit Reading. They then marched to London. In 1006 Sweyn, King of Denmark, marched through Hampshire, and, coming to Reading, reduced it to ashes with the nunnery erected by Elfrida in expiation of the murder of her step-son Edward the Martyr. In 1153 the castle, which had been in Stephen's possession, was given up to Henry Duke of Normandy, afterwards King Henry II., pursuant to an agreement concluded before the walls of Wallingford. At this time it appears the edifice was utterly demolished. No traces of it now remain except in the name *Castle Street*. In 1163 Henry presided at a single combat fought in the neighbourhood of Reading, probably on an island to the east of Caversham Bridge, between Henry de Essex, the King's standard-bearer, and Robert de Montfort. The latter accused his antagonist of cowardly or treacherously abandoning the royal banner upon a false report of the king's death or capture by the Welsh. Essex was vanquished and

left for dead on the field; but he recovered, and having forfeited his possessions to the crown, was permitted to assume the religious habit and become a member of Reading Abbey. In 1185 Henry met Heraclius, Patriarch of Jerusalem, here, who presented to him the keys of the holy sepulchre, and the royal banner of Jerusalem; and endeavoured, though without success, to induce him to set forth on an expedition against the Saracens. Richard I. held a parliament at Reading in 1191. In 1209 a great number of professors and students of Oxford came to reside here, on account of the unjust treatment they considered themselves to have received from the King (John) in consequence of the death of a woman killed by a priest. Three years afterwards, the Pope's Legate held a council here with the view of effecting a reconciliation between King John and the exiled barons. In the following year John himself came to Reading to meet the legate and the barons, and held a parliament. Henry III. held parliaments here in 1241 and in 1263. In 1314 Edward II. visited Reading, and an inhabitant afterwards petitioned parliament for the value of twenty-three quarters of oats and some litter, which had been seized without payment for the king's use: the application was successful. A grand tournament was held here by Edward III. in 1346. At Reading Richard II. and his barons were reconciled in 1389, through the instrumentality of John of Gaunt. In the year 1440, 1451, and 1452, parlia-

ments were held here; the last by adjournment from Westminster, on account of the plague. In 1464 the marriage of Edward IV. with Lady Grey was first made public at Reading, when the queen appeared in state at the Abbey, led by the Earls of Gloucester and Warwick. The parliament was again adjourned from Westminster on account of the plague in 1466. From the same cause, in 1625, the first year of the reign of Charles I., Michaelmas term was held here. The High Court of Chancery, the Courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas, of Wards and Liveries, and of Requests, were held in the great hall and other parts of the Abbey; the Court of Exchequer in the Town Hall, and the Court of Augmentation in the school-house. In 1642 we find Reading a parliamentary garrison, described as generally well fortified, but wanting ordnance. The governor was Harry Marten, who, on the approach of the king, quitted the town with the garrison. The Earl of Essex and Sir Thomas Skippon, on the part of the parliament, besieged Reading in the following year, when various entrenchments were thrown up. A fort at Caversham Hill, constructed by the king's party, was taken, and from thence the town was battered with considerable effect. The steeple of St. Giles's Church appears to have been then knocked down, the garrison having placed ordnance in the building. Sir Thomas Aston, the governor, being wounded, the command devolved on Colonel Fielding, who capitulated on the 27th of April. At the very same time

the king was within a day or two's march, coming to relieve him. Lord Clarendon relieves Colonel Fielding from any imputations of cowardice or treachery; the surrender, however, ruined his military reputation: he was never afterwards intrusted with any command. Sir Samuel Luke, the Hudibras of Butler, was in the parliamentary army on this occasion, and kept a record of the siege. After the first battle of Newbury, Reading again came into possession of the king, and Sir Jacob Astley was made governor, who afterwards for his conduct in this position was made Baron Astley of Reading. In 1644 Charles demolished the works, and left the town to be taken possession of by the Earl of Essex, the parliamentary general. In January, 1646, Reading was garrisoned for the parliament, and martial law declared; and in the succeeding year the town became the head-quarters of the parliament commander-in-chief, Fairfax. During these alternations of party triumph, the inhabitants were almost ruined by the heavy contributions to which they were subjected. The last historical circumstance worthy of note is connected with the revolution of 1688. The troops of King James and those of the Prince of Orange met here, and a trifling skirmish ensued, in which fell the only officer who perished in that expedition. At the same time, from a mere trifling incident that occurred in Reading, arose that widely-spread rumour that the Irish troops in the service of James were committing the most dreadful excesses upon the inhabitants, and

which was called the "Irish Cry." For a century the anniversary of this skirmish, dignified as the Reading fight, was commemorated by the ringing of bells.

Among the antiquities of Reading, the abbey of course forms the chief object of interest. This was one of the richest religious houses in the kingdom, and of the class called Mitred Abbeyes, or, in other words, whose abbots sat in parliament: the abbot of Reading took precedency in the House of Peers next after the abbots of St. Alban's and Glastonbury. It was founded by Henry I. in 1121, who endowed it for the support of 200 monks of the Benedictine order, and bestowed on it various important privileges. Among them were those of conferring knighthood, coining money, holding fairs, trying and punishing criminals, &c. The founder also gave a relic, assumed to be the hand of the Apostle James. The abbey provided for the poor, and necessary entertainment for travellers. William of Malmesbury, who, however, died about 1142, says there was always more spent by the monks on strangers than on themselves. Henry authorised the abbey to coin in London, and keep there a resident master or moneyer. The privilege of coining was entirely withdrawn in the eighth year of Edward II.'s reign (1315), but partially restored in the twelfth of Edward III. (1339). At the dissolution, in 1539, the abbot, Hugh Cook, alias Hugh Faringdon, whom Hall in his Chronicle calls a stubborn monk, and absolutely without learning, was, with two of his monks, hanged, drawn, and

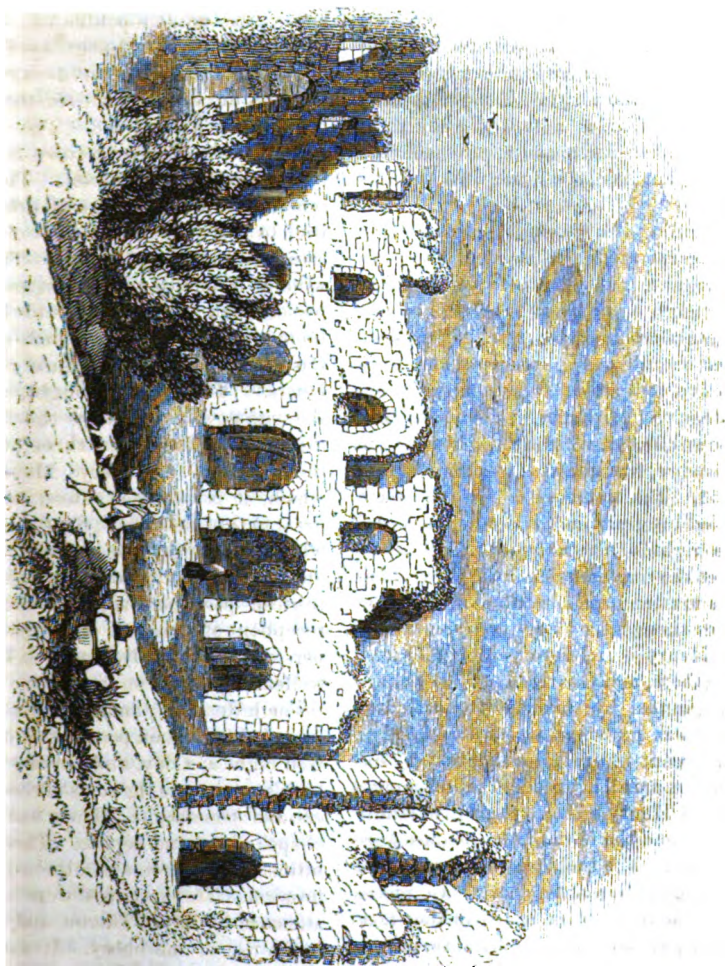
quartered for denying the king's supremacy—a charge that seems but ill supported by the recorded testimony of the king's visitor, Dr. Loudon. The clear revenues at this period were valued at 1908*l.*, which Lysons, writing in 1806, considers equivalent to at least 20,000*l.* The commissioners also found considerable quantities of plate, jewels, and other valuable articles. Henry VIII. and his successors for some time kept a portion of the abbey reserved for their occasional residence. But after the reign of James I. it does not appear to have been long occupied as a royal residence. The buildings generally began to decay, and immense quantities of the materials were carried off. Some of these were used in the construction of the hospital for poor knights at Windsor, and in the rebuilding of St. Mary's church. Many large masses were used by General Conway in the construction of that singular bridge at Park-place, near Henley, which is thrown across the high road. The abbey appears to have been surrounded by a wall with four arched and battlemented gateways, the ruins of some of which are still visible. There was also an inner court, with a gateway, which still exists. The north front has a beautiful Saxon arch, with an obtuse point at the top, rising from three clustered pillars without capitals. Among the chief remains is a portion of the great hall now used as a school-room. The dimensions of the hall were eighty feet by forty. There were three large entrance doors for the cloisters, and five noble windows in the

circular end of the room. Here it is supposed were held the numerous parliaments before mentioned. Many fragments of the massive walls still remain dispersed about. They have lost their outward casings, and consequently the flint and gravel beneath, of which they are constructed, is visible. The dimensions of the abbey church are thus given by Sir Henry Englefield, who carefully examined the ruins in the latter part of the last century:—Eastern chapel, 102 feet by 52; choir, 98 by 34; breadth of side aisles, 19 feet; transept, 196 by 56; nave, presumed to have been 215 feet in length; and the extreme length of the church, 420 feet. What remained of the church up to the period of the Civil War was then further dilapidated; the ruins of the north transept in particular are then recorded to have been blown up. The abbey mills are still remaining in excellent preservation, and exhibit in different parts arches evidently coeval with the abbey itself. Over the mill-race is a large Norman arch with a zig-zag moulding. The founder, Henry I., and his second wife Adeliza, were buried in the abbey church, and probably Matilda, his first queen. The Empress Maude, William, eldest son of Henry II., and other illustrious persons were also buried here. In 1815 a fragment of a stone sarcophagus in two pieces was found about the centre of the choir, supposed, with some probability, to have been Henry's coffin.

The Franciscan friars settled here in 1233. Their convent stood near the

west end of Friar Street. On its dissolution, the warden petitioned that he and his brethren, being aged men, might be permitted to occupy their lodgings during life; but even that humble request was denied. The church was formerly used as a town-hall, and it now serves as a bridewell. The walls remain entire: the nave is divided from the two narrow aisles by clustered columns and pointed arches. The west window is handsome, and in excellent preservation. According to Leland, there was also on the north side of Castle Street "a fair house of Grey Friars." This, it is thought, was on the site now occupied by the Methodist chapel. There were three hospitals in Reading: St. Mary Magdalen's, which, it is supposed, stood near the great gate of the abbey; St. Lawrence's, which stood near the church, founded about 1190, for the constant support of thirteen poor persons, and occasional reception of thirteen other poor sick persons, particularly lepers, belonging to Reading, and of strangers who passed through Reading; and lastly, St. John's, intended for certain poor women serving God night and day, and praying for the king's estate, and the souls of the founders and benefactors. They had a fair chapel for divine service. There were ultimately brethren also attached to this hospital. The revenues were entirely alienated by Abbot Thorne, and applied to the use of the abbey. It was then, as we shall hereafter see, converted into a grammar-school. St. John's hospital is now used as the town-hall. Near the

[Ruins of Hestling Abbey as they appeared in 1781.]



west end of Friar Street stood St. Edmund's chapel, built and endowed by a burgess in 1284. It was desecrated in 1479, the chapel having been previously converted into a barn. This was used in the Civil War as a fort. It was afterwards taken down, and rebuilt at Battle Farm, but has been since destroyed by fire.

Reading is a borough by prescription. The corporation was originally a guild merchant, existing, it is said, as early as the reign of Edward the Confessor, by virtue of a charter supposed to have been then obtained. The guild was composed of five companies of freemen, enjoying extensive privileges. The earliest known charter, which is not, however, in existence, was granted by Henry III. in 1253. The members of the guild were called burgesses as early as 1254, when the right of the abbot of Reading to elect the master was affirmed. In 1351 this master was called the mayor. Various succeeding charters were granted by Henry VII., Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, and Charles I. By the charter granted by this last monarch the town was governed up to the period of the recent municipal changes. These charters are all in excellent preservation; that of Henry VII. is splendidly illuminated, and the initial letter contains his portrait. The guild was dissolved prior to the operation of the charter of Charles I. The corporation now consists of a mayor, six aldermen, and eighteen burgesses. The borough is divided into three wards. The borough courts consist of a court of quarter sessions, a

court of record limited to cases not exceeding 10*l.* in amount, and a court leet holden by the corporation as lords of the manor of Reading. A petty sessions for the division is held every Saturday. The gaol in the Friary church is small and confined; and for some years an arrangement has been made with the authorities of the county gaol, in pursuance of which, only debtors and persons under confinement previous to commitment are lodged in the borough gaol. The police force has been greatly improved within the last ten years. The Lent or spring assizes are held at Reading, the summer at Abingdon. The epiphany quarter sessions for the county, and occasionally the Michaelmas sessions, are held at Reading. Reading has returned members to parliament from the earliest period of parliamentary history. The right of election in 1700 was adjudged to be in the freemen not receiving alms, and in the inhabitants paying scot and lot; in 1716 it was determined to be in the latter only.

The town is in the form of an equilateral triangle, consisting of four principal streets, crossed by various other smaller ones, and is divided in the centre into various small islands (connected by bridges) by the branches of the Kennett. The streets are for the most part spacious and well built, and present no inconsiderable number of handsome-looking houses, as well as some important public buildings. Here and there may still be seen erections of the fifteenth century, with their charac-

teristic high gables. There are several excellent wharfs on the Kennett; and altogether Reading presents ample evidence of the prosperity it has now for some years enjoyed, and which appears to be still increasing. The population has increased from 10,788 in 1811 to 15,595 in 1831.

Within the space formerly enclosed by the outer walls of the abbey is a public place called the Forbery. This is bounded on the north by a long terrace-walk, affording a delightful view of the Oxford hills and the fertile valley between through which runs the Thames. Near the southern extremity of the town is a stratum of oyster-shells.

The ancient parish churches are St. Mary's, St. Lawrence's and St. Giles's. St. Mary's church stands, according to tradition, on the site of the nunnery of Elfrida before mentioned. It is said to have been the earliest Christian fabric erected in this part after the conversion of the inhabitants. It was formerly called the Minster, hence the name of an adjoining street. In 1547 the old (and probably the Saxon) church was pulled down, and the present one built on the site, partly from the ruins of the Abbey. It is a plain massive structure in the later style of English architecture, with a beautiful square tower of tessellated flint and stone. The living is a vicarage, endowed with the great tithes, in the patronage of the crown. The net income, on an average of three years ending in 1831, was 661*l*. The church-lands produce an income of about 127*l*., which is applied to the

general purposes of church-rates. St. Lawrence's church was rebuilt, or extensively repaired, in 1434. Among the relics belonging to it in 1517 was a gridiron of silver-gilt, containing within a relic professed to be a bone of St. Lawrence. The living is a vicarage without tithes or glebe. Prior to the Reformation the vicar was provided with lodging, board, clothing, a horse, &c., by the Abbot. The average net income for 1831 and the two preceding years was 276*l*. The patronage rests with St. John's College, Oxford. During Elizabeth's occasional residence at the Abbey, she used to attend St. Lawrence's, where a canopied and tapestried pew was provided for her, and on her visits the aisles were strewed with rushes and flowers. St. Giles's church is also an endowed vicarage, the average net income for the years 1829-30-31, was 522*l*. The church was completely repaired in 1829, with the surplus of certain property charged with annuities. St. John's church is a new edifice, erected under the authority of the Commissioners for building new churches. There is a Chapel of Ease attached to the vicarage of St. Mary's, erected a few years ago by the Rev. G. Hulme; and the Castle-street chapel, which some time ago was considered to belong to the Countess of Huntingdon's connexion, was, through the instrumentality of the trustees, consecrated for the service of the Church of England. All the principal Dissenting bodies have chapels at Reading.

Of the other public building we may first mention the Oracle, a notable ex-

ample of poor-law fallacies. In 1624, John Kendrick gave funds to the corporation to purchase a strong house of brick to set the poor at work in, on the woollen manufacture. This was to be furnished, and for its maintenance a large sum was set apart as a common stock. The institution was for some time conducted with success; but, in the end, the manufacture generally in Reading was ruined by this very institution intended for its support; for the manufacturers, living rent free, and enjoying the loan of tools, and frequently even of money, undersold all competitors; but as these disappeared, it appears to have been found that the trade gradually disappeared too. The Oracle comprises a very extensive range of workshops and other buildings, surrounding a large court-yard, which is entered by an ancient gateway. Many of the rooms are now shut up, containing old looms, broken machinery, &c. A few persons occupy, rent free, some rooms for the weaving of sail-cloth, sacking, &c. A large room of the building is used as a school-room. The town-hall, forming the upper portion of St. John's Hospital, was rebuilt in 1785, and now forms a very noble room 100 feet long, 32 broad, and 24 high. Adjoining to it is a spacious council chamber, with portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Archbishop Laud, and other benefactors or natives of the town. The County Hospital was erected by subscription, and is supported by voluntary contributions. The County Gaol was built about 1793, on the site of the

Abbey: it contains a commodious house for the keeper, a room for the reception of the magistrates, a neat chapel, and an infirmary, numerous day-rooms, and airy yards for prisoners of each sex. There are also cells for the refractory, and for the purposes of solitary confinement. St. Giles's National School, erected in 1835, is a handsome structure in the Gothic style. Among the other public buildings may be mentioned the New Market-house, the Theatre, and the Baths.

Reading is lighted with gas by two companies, their several acts being obtained in 1825 and in 1836. A joint-stock company was formed in 1694, for the distribution of water from the Kennett by machinery. About the beginning of the present century the arrangements were greatly improved, when a lofty brick-tower was erected on the banks of the Kennett, and a large reservoir constructed at the upper end of Castle-street. A great number of wells have been opened in different parts of the town, which it is thought are supplied from the Thames rather than the Kennett, although the latter is so near. In 1785 an act was obtained for paving the town.

The clothing manufacture is said to have been introduced into Reading as early as the time of Edward I. Many traditions are preserved concerning a rich clothier of that period, one Thomas Cole. Except in connexion with the Oracle, the manufacture has been lost since the period of the Civil War. The trade of Reading has, however, for some

time been in a flourishing state. This may in a great measure be owing to the increased facilities for transport the town enjoys. The Kennett is now navigable for barges of 120 tons from the Thames through Reading to Newbury, where it joins the Kennett and Avon Canal, which is continued to Bath. A new wharf and dock were constructed in 1828. The principal articles of exportation are flour, malt, corn, seeds, oak-bark, hoops, wool, beer, and cheese. Of the flour it is said that upwards of 20,000 sacks are sent annually to the metropolis. There are iron foundries, some large breweries, several yards for boat-building, &c. The fairs of Reading occur on the 2nd of February, 1st of May, 25th of July, and 21st of September. The July fair for horses and the September for cheese are much noted. The quantity of cheese sold on these occasions is immense. In 1836 no less than 700 tons were pitched for sale, the value of which would be about 40,000*l*. The market-days are Wednesday and Saturday; the first chiefly for provisions; the last, for corn, is of considerable importance. The corn-market is held in the market-place, a convenient area, occupied on three sides by shops, and on the fourth by the church of St. Lawrence. The shops are kept in repair by the corporation, who take a toll of one pint from each sack of corn sold in the market.

Leland states that Henry VII., coming to Reading in 1486, noticed the decayed hospital of St. John, and inquired as to

its history of Abbot Thorn, who had alienated its revenues. On receiving the information sought, he desired it might again be converted to pious uses; when the abbot desired it might be made a grammar-school. The king gave an endowment of 10*l*.; and other donations appear to have been made to it, all traces of which are lost. By the charter of Elizabeth, the 10*l*. was charged upon the corporation, and that charge still remains the only endowment, with the exception of property given by Archbishop Laud, now amounting to about 40*l*. per annum, for the increase of the master's salary. His appointment belongs to the corporation. Two scholarships at St. John's College, Oxford, were annexed to the school by Sir Thomas White. The selection of candidates rests with the corporation; it has been the practice of late years to confine the advantages of this foundation to natives of Reading. The school is open to all boys, without regard to their birth-place; but none are admitted free. The school occupied for many years the lower part of St. John's Hospital, but the late Dr. Valpy, the distinguished scholar, built a new room at his own expense. A house for the master was purchased by subscription in 1764, which was enlarged and improved by Dr. Valpy. During that gentleman's government, plays were triennially performed by the scholars. The Blue-coat School was founded by R. Aldworth, Esq., in 1646, for the support, education, and apprenticeship of twenty boys. Various subsequent benefactions have

raised the number to forty-seven; and the whole income of the school exceeds 1060*l.* per annum. Three of the boys are selected by the landholders of the parish of Sonning, the others by the corporation. The school-house was built by the corporation in 1723. The master has a salary of 50*l.* a-year, 6*l.* for a servant, and board and residence for himself, wife, and servant. In St. Mary's parish there is a small school, called the Foundation School, endowed with property producing 11*l.* per annum, by Mr. J. Neale in 1714. Twenty-five very young children are here taught to read. The corporation lend a school-room rent-free. The girl's Green-school was established in 1779 for the support, education, and apprenticeship of the daughters of decayed resident tradesmen, or orphans unprovided for. It has property producing 132*l.* per annum, which is increased by annual subscriptions. The mistress's salary is 63*l.* There are twenty-one girls on the foundation. A premium of a guinea is given for good conduct during apprenticeship. In 1810, Edward Simeon, Esq., founded and endowed a Sunday-school with 2500*l.*, the interest from which is expended in the instruction of poor children, and in assisting to clothe the scholars every alternate year. There is also a school of industry, in which thirty-four girls are taught reading and plain-work, and are clothed. The other schools are the National, Lancasterian, and British and Foreign Schools, Sunday-schools in connexion with the establishment, and the various bodies of Dis-

senters; and there are several good boarding and day-schools.

There are two societies in Reading for the encouragement of literature and science—the Literary and Philosophical Institutions. The former, which was established about 1808, possesses a library, reading-room, and residence for the librarian, and the latter besides its library, a museum; and public lectures are given at certain periods. In 1840 an Antiquarian Society was formed at Reading called the Berkshire Ashmolean Society. A Mechanics' Institution was opened a few years ago, but did not succeed. Among the other societies of Reading may be mentioned the Philanthropic and the Loan Societies, each calculated, though in different ways, for the assistance of the poor. There is also a Horticultural Society.

The charities of Reading are so numerous that it is impossible to give even the briefest outline of them individually; some of the most interesting or important alone can be noticed. John Blagrove, in 1611, directed his heirs to pay 10*l.* yearly to the corporation for the purpose of giving twenty nobles (6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*) to one poor maiden servant about to be married, and who had been not less than five years in one place. The remainder of the money was to be appropriated to the paying for a sermon on the occasion, for ringers to ring the lucky maiden home, for gifts to poor scholars accompanying the procession, &c. Three girls are selected who throw dice, and the one who gets the highest number receives the prize. Archbishop

Laud established a similar charity, which every third year apportioned twelve poor maidens. In 1825 the amount to each amounted to 25*l*. The Rev. Mr. Bondry and James Richards, in 1775, established a like charity to that of John Blagrove's for one poor maiden, which gives to the winner about 30*l*. Lastly, from the gifts of Martin Annesley, Esq., the two unsuccessful candidates at Blagrove's, and those at Bondry and Richard's charities, receive severally 4*l*. and 3*l*. each, according as they stood nearest in the throw to the winner. These gambling charities can scarcely be recommended for imitation. Among the other charities are two Loan Funds. One of 150*l*., lent in sums of 50*l*., is part of a charity founded by John Kendrick; and another, divided into eleven loans of 50*l*. each, is part of the great charity founded by Sir Thomas White in Bristol, and twenty-four other cities or towns. These loans are lent without interest, on bond with three sureties, for ten years. They do not appear to be generally all at once in use. The different almshouses of Reading support about forty aged men and women. The other charities are generally for the apprenticeship of poor boys, gifts to the poor at stated intervals, and for other purposes of a like nature.

The property of the corporation in 1835 produced an income of 1137*l*. Part of it has been in the possession of the corporation from time immemorial, but the most considerable portion was the gift of Elizabeth. It was charged

with the building and repairing of nineteen bridges in the neighbourhood of Reading; and in 1830 no less than 2500*l*., were expended in this manner. The expenditure in 1831-2 amounted to 910*l*., the principal items of which were salaries of officers and police, payments connected with the public buildings of the town—the Town Hall, Compter, Bridewell, Market Place, Town bridges, &c. The poor-rates are large in proportion to the population. There are many small tenements, and the Commissioners of Corporation Inquiry were informed that in 1833 there were nearly 2000 houses in the borough bearing no portion of the local burdens, and which if fairly assessed would have produced about 3500*l*., to the poor-rates. The number of houses in the borough in 1831, including 226 unoccupied, was 3307; of these 1050 were rated at 10*l*. and upwards, on a rental of 30,800*l*.; 1200 houses were assessed to the poor-rates, and 2100 were excused on account of the alleged inability of the occupiers: the assessed taxes produced 8660*l*. The Reading union, under the Poor Law Amendment Act, was formed on the 1st of August, 1835, and comprises the borough and the adjoining hamlet of Whitley and Southcote tithing. For the three years preceding, the average expenditure for the relief and maintenance of the poor amounted to 8179*l*., while for the year ending 25th March, 1838, the amount was only 4549*l*.

Robert of Reading, one of the first monks, is said to have been the only

Englishman of his time, with the exception of Adelard of Bath, who was master of the Arabic language. Reading has not given birth to many eminent men. Archbishop Laud, born here in 1573, and beheaded 1644, was the son of a clothier in Broad-street. The names of the following are entitled to notice :—John Blagrove, a mathemati-

cian; Joseph Blagrove, a writer on astrology; Sir John Barnard, an alderman of London; James Merrick, who translated the Psalms; William Baker, a printer of some learning in the last century; Sir Constantine Phipps, Lord Chancellor of Ireland; and Dr. Phanuel Bacon, a dramatic writer.

CHAPTER VI.

READING TO WALLINGFORD.

THIS may be pursued as a continuation of the tour from Maidenhead to Henley and Reading, as the road also lies near the Thames. In the vicinity of this route we have the Great Western Railway, with the stations at Pangbourn, Goring in Oxfordshire, which county the line enters for a short distance, and, lastly, the Moulsoford station, in Berkshire, which is the one nearest Wallingford.

From Reading to Wallingford the distance, by the road, is fifteen miles. Passing through St. Mary's parish, Reading, the distance to PURLEY, the first village on the road, is about five miles. Purley Hall stands in a park by the road side. The mansion is in the elegant style which prevailed at the commencement of the last century, and was built by Mr. Law, who was famous for his connexion with the South Sea scheme: Warren Hastings resided here during his memorable trial. Purley House is an elegant mansion from a design by Wyatt.

PANGBOURN is situated on the direct road, six miles from Reading, and near the banks of the Thames. A fine stream called the Pang, famous for its trout,

passes through the parish, to which it has doubtless given name. Bere Court in this parish was a summer residence of the Abbots of Reading, to whom it was given by Bingham, Bishop of Salisbury, in 1230. In the window of the hall are still preserved the arms of Hugh Faringdon, the last abbot. Bere Court is agreeably situated in a retired spot among hills, about a mile distant from the village. From a tower on the neighbouring height is a delightful view of the rich scenery with which this part of the county abounds. Since the Reformation Bere Court has passed with the manor of Pangbourn. Sir John Davis was the possessor of both in 1613, a person of some note during the reign of Elizabeth. He was patronised by the earl of Essex, and employed in some expeditions in which he gained considerable reputation. When Essex fell, Sir John was also so deeply implicated as to be sentenced to death; he was however ultimately pardoned. Camden speaks of him as an excellent mathematician; he was also deeply versed in the mysteries of astrology. His monument is in Pangbourn church. The river Thames here widens consider-

ably, and is spanned by a bridge built about 1792.

There is a road from Pangbourn to the London and Bath road, which it joins about five miles west of Reading; also a road which joins the one from Abingdon to Newbury, about nine miles from the latter place. On the first of these roads is Tidmarsh, which has an interesting parish church with a hexagonal chancel. Sulham is about a mile east of Tidmarsh, and six miles from Reading.

Returning to the main road, we reach BASILDEN, about seven and a half miles from Reading, midway between Reading and Wallingford. It had once a weekly market, granted by Edward II. in 1309, and also a fair held at the festival of St. Barnabas. There were two churches at Basilden at the period of the Norman survey, and Lysons conjectures that one of them was at Upper Basilden, about two miles from the present parish church. The mansion in Basilden Park is one of the finest seats in the county. It has been recently purchased by James Morison, Esq. The park extends to a considerable distance on one side of the road, while on the other is seen the mazy windings of the river Thames, which here divides the county from Oxfordshire. The mansion is approached from the lodge gates by a fine drive which leads to a large lawn skirted by hills covered with beech and other trees. The estate of Basilden, in Reading hundred, formerly belonged to the family of Vane, and was purchased about the year 1766 of the Countess of

Sandwich and Madame de Salis, sisters to Charles, second Viscount Vane, by Francis Sykes, Esq., who erected the present mansion from the design of John Carr, of York. It is constructed entirely of stone, and consists of a large central building and two wings. The corridor in the centre of the building is in good taste, rising from a rustic basement, after the Italian style, and ornamented with four Ionic columns, supporting a pediment with a bold and prominent cornice. The wings are used as domestic offices, but the stables and coach-houses are at some distance from the house, and concealed by a plantation. The principal apartments are spacious and elegant; and in particular the Grand Saloon, which was painted by T. De Bruyn in imitation of bas-relief.

ASHAMPSTEAD is three and a half miles on the left of the main road, in a well wooded and pleasant part of the country. The manor of Hartridge in this parish is believed to have been the estate formerly held by the tenure of keeping a goss-hawk for the king. The parochial chapel is annexed to the vicarage of Basilden.

ALDORTH is two and a half miles on the left of the direct road before reaching Strealy, in a very secluded situation. The manor of Aldworth belonged to Theodorick, the goldsmith, at the period when the Domesday survey was made; and to the De la Beche family in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Several ancient monuments in the parish church are supposed to be memorials

of this family; but of the old castle, which was their seat, not a vestige remains, and its site is called Beche Farm.

Returning to the main road at a distance of nine miles from Reading, and six from Wallingford, we come to **STREATLEY**, on the banks of the Thames, across which there is here a ferry to **Whitchurch**, in Oxfordshire. There was once a convent of the Dominican order in the village. **Streatley** is situated on the Roman road called **Ickleton Street**, or **Ickleton Way**, which, coming from Bedfordshire crossed the Thames by a ford. Another ancient road, called the **Ridge Way**, supposed to be Roman, enters the county from Wiltshire, and passes near **Uffington**, **Wantage**, **East Hendred**, **Upton**, and **Blewberry** to **Streatley**. **Blewberry** is situated upon this road, five miles from **Streatley**. **Blewberry** church contains some ancient monuments of the family of **Latton**, who had a seat in the hamlet of **Upton**, in this parish, from the fourteenth to the sixteenth century. There are chapels of ease at **Upton**, and also at **Aston Upthorpe**, another hamlet of **Blewberry**. On **Blewberry Plain** are several tumuli. **Blowburton Hill** is a considerable eminence between **Blewberry** and **Aston Tirrel** on the right of the road. A little to the west of the former place is the source of a stream called **Padsey Brook**, on which there are two or three mills, and which falls into the Thames at Wallingford. The other places situated on the **Port Way** are noticed elsewhere.

MOULSFORD, not quite three miles from Wallingford, on the main road, is said by **Lysons** to be a hamlet of **Cholsey** parish, but in the Population Returns, and in the Ordnance Survey, it is noticed as a parish of itself. The church contains several monuments, one to **William Gifford, Esq.**, who died in 1694, and was the first president of **Fort St. George**, in Africa. One of the stations of the Great Western Railway is at **Moulsford**.

The road next passes through **Cholsey** Field past **Cholsey Mill**, and within two miles of the village of **CHOLSEY**, which is situated about three miles south-west of Wallingford. At **Cholsey**, **King Ethelred** founded a monastery in 986 as an atonement for the murder of his brother **Edward the Martyr**; and it is believed to have been destroyed by the Danes, when they burnt **Reading** and committed other ravages in the county. **Henry I.** granted the manor to **Reading Abbey**, and the abbots had a seat here. The church once belonged to the abbey of **Mount St. Michael**, in Normandy.

Before entering Wallingford we pass through the small village of **Winterbrooke** in **Cholsey** parish, about a quarter of a mile from Wallingford. It contains about 100 inhabitants, and is connected with Wallingford by scattered houses.

WALLINGFORD, a parliamentary borough, returning one member, is a place of great antiquity, situated on the bank of the Thames, forty-six miles from London: it comprises four parishes. **Lysons** and other antiquarians suppose



[Wallingford and View on the Thames.]

that there was a town here in the time of the Romans, the name of which is lost, and they ascribe the origin of the present name, either to an ancient British word *guallen* or the Latin *val-lum*, each signifying a fort or fortified position, and the ford over the river, thus making *Guallen Ford* or *Vallum Ford*. Wallingford was destroyed by the Danes in 1006, when they ravaged the county; but it appears to have been rebuilt in 1013, as it was then visited by Sweyn, king of Denmark. In the reign of Edward the Confessor it was a royal borough, containing 276 houses, paying a tax to the king. On the Norman invasion the Conqueror was invited to Wallingford by Wigod, a Saxon lord, at whose castle the Archbishop Stigand and many others appeared and submitted to William. The nuptials of Wigod's daughter with one of the Norman generals were celebrated at the same time. In 1067 the king directed a strong castle to be built at Wallingford, as a means of overawing the country. In the course of a century the castle, town, and honour of Wallingford, which had successively descended to Wigod's daughter and grand daughter came into the possession of the crown. Henry II. assembled a general council of the bishops and barons at the castle, who swore allegiance to him, and at a later period King John met the discontented barons of the north at the same place. During the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries the castle was the scene of several interesting events. At one period it was

held by the Earl of Chester; next by the Earl of Cornwall; and Edward II. gave it to Piers Gaveston. Thus it passed from one great feudal lord to another, reverting occasionally to the crown at the pleasure of the sovereign. By the time that this stormy period was passing away, its strength had begun to decay; and there were no longer the same powerful motives for keeping it in repair. Leland, in the beginning of the sixteenth century, describes it as "sore yn ruine." Camden, who wrote somewhat later, says that "its size and magnificence used to amaze me when I came hither, a lad, from Oxford." Still, up to the period of the Civil War, it was considered one of the most important fortresses in the king's possession; the royal army marched here after the second battle of Newbury in 1644; and it did not fall into the hands of the parliamentary forces until two years afterwards. In 1652 orders were issued for the demolition of the castle, the inhabitants of the county having also petitioned for this object. So thoroughly was this work performed that scarcely a vestige of its former state and grandeur now remains.

An ancient college, consisting of a dean and prebendaries, existed at one period within the walls of the castle, founded, it is believed, by Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, who died in 1300. After the surrender of the endowment in the reign of Henry VIII., it was purchased by the dean and canons of Christ Church, Oxford, who let the clerk's house, described by Leland as

"a fair lodging of tymbre," on condition of the tenants quitting the whole of it, except one chamber, at eight days' notice, in case of Oxford being visited by the plague or sickness. There was another ecclesiastical establishment at Wallingford, a convent of Benedictine monks, founded by one of the abbots of St. Albans in the reign of William the Conqueror; and at one period there were eleven churches in the borough.

A hospital for poor men and women existed in the thirteenth century. In 1687, Mr. William Aungear and his sister founded an alms-house for six poor widows; and the original small endowment has been increased by subsequent bequests.

It appears, from a document quoted by Lysons in the 'History of Berkshire,' that in the thirteenth century a native of Wallingford, guilty of any offence which rendered him liable to capital punishment, might have the option either of having his eyes put out, or being otherwise mutilated in his person, instead of being put to death. James I. granted the town its first charter of incorporation. Under the Municipal Corporations Reform Act the corporation consists of four aldermen and twelve councillors, and the corporate body is styled the "mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of the borough of Wallingford." The borough has enjoyed its parliamentary privileges since the reign of Edward I., and before the passing of the Reform Act the right of voting was vested by ancient charter in the inhabitants paying scot and lot.

The number of electors was about 300, but not more than 212 had polled at any election during the preceding thirty years. The Reform Act took away one of the members from Wallingford, and extended the boundaries of the parliamentary borough by taking in parishes and parts of parishes adjacent to the old boundaries, so that it now comprises treble the population of the old borough.

At the period of the Norman survey, the market, which had been held from time immemorial, was on the Saturday; afterwards the day was changed to Sunday; and in 1218 to Thursday. Tuesday and Friday are now the market-days; the first being of very little consequence, and the second a small corn market; and there are four annual fairs. The chief trade of the place is malting. A great plague in the reign of Edward III., (1327-1377) and the building of Culham and Burford bridges, near Abingdon, in 1415, by which the great road into Gloucestershire and South Wales was diverted from Wallingford, is believed to have proved highly injurious at the time to the prosperity of the town. Leland speaks of it as being much decayed; and in the reign of Mary (1553-1558) it is described in an inquisition, quoted by Lysons, as being then "in greater desolation than ever it was, every manner of way." Its present condition and appearance testify that it has recovered this state of depression. Soon after the middle of the last century the building of a bridge across the Thames at Shillingford opened the communication between Reading and

Oxford by Wallingford; and a new turnpike road was made from Wallingford through the vale of White Horse to Wantage. In 1795 an act was obtained for paving and lighting the town. In 1801 the population amounted only to 1744, but in 1831 it had increased to 2467. The town principally consists of two streets, and the boundary commissioners who visited it in 1831 state that "the general aspect of the place would indicate that it is in good condition. For its size it contains a considerable number of neat private dwellings; a few are of a superior character. The town is lighted with gas. In general terms Wallingford may be described as a neat country town respectably inhabited." In the old borough 212 out of 485 houses are of the annual value of 10*l.* and upwards. The Great Western Railway approaches within three miles of the town. The present bridge across the Thames was built in 1809. The former bridge was considered the oldest on the river, and consisted of nineteen arches and four draw-bridges, the whole 300 yards in length; but the structure was so much injured by a great flood that it was obliged to be taken down.

Wallingford now contains three churches: St. Mary's, a handsome edifice with an embattled tower and pinnacles, on the top of which is an armed knight on horseback, said to represent King Stephen; St. Leonard's, a very ancient edifice; and St. Peter's, built in 1769, to which a spire was afterwards added, by subscription, in 1777. There are places of worship for the Independents, the Society of Friends, the Baptists, and Wesleyan Methodists.

In 1659 Mr. Walter Bigg, an alderman of London, endowed a free-school with the sum of 10*l.* per annum; and in 1672 the Merchant Tailors' Company of London gave 32*l.* for the erection of a free-school, and 2*l.* 10*s.* a-year for the master. In 1833 there were eleven daily schools in the borough, the average attendance at which was 320; and several Sunday schools, attended by about 340 children.

Richard de Wallingford, abbot of St. Albans, eminent in his time for his mechanical genius; and John de Wallingford, the writer of a well-known 'Chronicle,' are believed to have been natives of Wallingford.

CHAPTER VII.

READING TO NEWBURY AND HUNGERFORD.

THE Great Western Railway, after passing Reading, makes a great bend to the north, leaving the south-western parts of Berkshire without the advantages which it affords to other parts of the county. The tourist must therefore have recourse to the old modes of travelling, and between Reading, Newbury and Hungerford, which route we now proceed to describe, he will find all the resources which an ancient and active traffic creates for the accommodation of travellers. Newbury is twelve miles from the Pangbourn station on the Great Western Railway, and fourteen miles from the Basingstoke station on the South Western Railway.

Coley, at the western extremity of Reading, is an ancient manor which belonged for many generations to the Vachells; and Coley House, their ancient seat, was the residence of Charles I. for a few days, during the Civil War.

The road passes by a place called World's End, and next Horn castle, after which, about three quarters of a mile from the main road, on the left, is **TILEHURST**, the parish church of which contains a costly monument to the memory of Sir Peter Vanlore, a rich merchant, who died in 1627, and

his lady. Lloyd, Bishop of Worcester, who died in 1717, was a native of this place. Calcot House is in the parish. Between Tilehurst and the road is an eminence called Cockney Hill; and to the west, half a mile from the main road, is Langley Hill. About two miles from Calcot Green is **THEALE**, a chapelry in this parish of Tilehurst: Theale gives its name to the hundred. The country is here well wooded, and on the left the Kennet takes its course through rich meadows. There is an episcopal chapel at Theale erected at the expense of Mrs. Sophia Sheppard. Pursuing our course along the main road we reach, within less than a mile from the village, a road to the Thames at Pangbourn, which passes through **TIDMARSH**, the parish church of which is noticeable as having an enriched Norman doorway, and for its peculiar form; the chancel terminating in the half of an hexagon. **BURGHFIELD** parish church contains an ancient monument with the figure of a crusader in wood. The bridge over the river Loddon is a very ancient structure.

ENGLEFIELD HOUSE, the seat of Richard Benyon de Beauvoir, Esq., is situated about six miles west of Reading, and forms a conspicuous object to the

north of the Bath Road. This manor was at a very early period possessed by the ancient family of Englefield, by whom it was held till the reign of Elizabeth, when it became forfeited to the crown, owing to the conviction of Sir J. Englefield, on a charge of aiding the plot to rescue Mary Queen of Scots from the hands of her rival. The act of attainder being passed, a grant of the manors was made to Sir Francis Walsingham, from whose family it passed, by marriage, into that of John, Marquess of Winchester, who built the present mansion after the demolition of Basing House in Wiltshire, which he had so nobly defended against the parliamentary forces in the time of Charles I. Upon the death of the marquess, his only surviving son, Lord Francis Paulet, took possession of the Englefield estate, and bequeathed it on his demise to an only daughter Anne, who married the Reverend Nathan Wrighte, a younger son of the Lord Keeper Wrighte. Upon the death of Nathan Wrighte, Esq., in 1789, Englefield devolved to the late Richard Benyon, Esq., son of Governor Benyon, by the widow of Powlett Wrighte, Esq., elder brother of the last-mentioned Nathan. The present proprietor of this seat, grandson of the governor, in 1822, took the additional name of De Beauvoir. The house is finely situated on a rising ground, with a large and thick wood at the back, "like a mantle about a coat of arms." In the north aisle of the chancel of the parish church are several monuments of the Englefield

family, and on the south aisle is a monument to the memory of John, Marquis of Winchester, the defender of Basing House, with an epitaph from the pen of Dryden.

Jack's Booth, a well-known place on the London and Bath Road, is nearly six miles and a half from Reading. On the left, at the distance of about one mile is—

SULHAMPSTEAD BANNISTER, the manor of which originally belonged to the family of Bannister. The river Kennet runs through the parish. SULHAMPSTEAD ABBOTS, or Abbas, also on the left, nearly two miles from the main road, is mentioned in old writings under the name of Suthampstead and Chilhampted. The abbey of Reading had two manors in the parish. There is a small endowed school. Proceeding towards Newbury—

URTON, or Ufton Nervets, is on the left, nearly 2 miles from the road. Here resided Arabella, wife of Francis Perkins, Esq., the lady celebrated by Pope in the Rape of the Lock, under the name of Belinda, and to whom, under her maiden name of Fernor, the poem was dedicated. There were two manors here at the period of the Conquest, one of which was called Ufton Nervets and the other Ufton Greysdale; and these were most probably the names of the two parishes of Ufton, which were consolidated in 1442. A few years ago the remains of the ancient church of Ufton Greysdale were visible.

STRATFIELD MORTIMER, is 3 miles S.S.E. of Upton, and near the verge of

the county. The manor was held by the family of Mortimer at the Conquest, and remained in their hands until the death of the Earl of March in 1425. Afterwards it came into the possession of the crown, and Queen Elizabeth granted it to Lord Hunsdon in 1564. In one of the church windows is a portrait of William of Wykeham. The heath is of considerable extent and stretches into Hampshire. It was enclosed in 1802, a reserve of one hundred acres being made to the poor for fuel, and the enclosed lands being subject to tithe.

Returning to the main road we reach the Hare-and-Hounds, a long established inn, a mile and a quarter from which is—

PADWORTH. The manor was held from an early period by the family of Courdray, by the terms of providing a sailor to manage the ropes of the Queen's vessel whenever she visited Normandy. The church, which is very small, is a curious and interesting specimen of enriched Norman architecture.

ALDERMASTON, about one and a half miles from the main road, is situated S. of the Kennet, on the border of Hampshire, at a distance of above twelve miles S.W. from Reading. In the church, among other monuments, is one of alabaster, with the effigies of Sir George Forster, who died in 1526, and his wife Elizabeth. Round the sides, under gothic canopies, are small figures of their eleven sons, in armour, and eight daughters with the angular head dresses of the day. There are three fairs held here, May 6, July 7, and October 11. Aldermaston House, residence of W. Congreve, Esq., was

built in 1636, as appears by the inscription over the door-way, and owing to the very excellent restorations made within a comparatively recent period, the mansion appears nearly in its original state. The exterior is not remarkable, presenting simply a plain brick elevation with a bold cornice, and with the doors adorned with twisted columns; but the interior presents some peculiarly interesting features, particularly the staircase, which is unique in the richness of its decorations. The dining room is large and handsome, and the great drawing room above is very richly ornamented with carving and gilding: both rooms have ancient ponderous chimney-pieces, extending nearly to the ceilings. In most of the windows through the house are impaled the arms of the different possessors of the house. The rooms in the back look into an avenue in the park, which consists of nearly 800 acres of ground, and contains many venerable oaks, some of them above 20 feet round. Among the pictures are many family portraits, including one of the poet Congreve, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, a landscape by Gaspar Poussin, Queen Esther before Ahasuerus by Tintoretto, &c. There are entrenchments visible between Aldermaston Heath and Stratfield Mortimer windmill.

The main road next takes us to **MIDGHAM**, a hamlet in the parish of Thatcham, which has a chapel of ease, built in 1714, by John Hillersdon, Esq., lord of the manor. Passing over a tract called Midgham Marsh we reach—

THATCHAM, the most extensive parish

in the county, except Lambourn, containing, according to the Population Returns, 12,960 acres. From the Domesday survey, and other authentic records, it appears to have been at one period a borough town, though there is no account of its ever having sent members to Parliament. Its market was first held on Tuesday, but in the reign of Henry III. the day was changed to Thursday : it has long been discontinued. The population at present amounts to 4000. The church contains some altar tombs, but the figures on Judge Danvers' monument have been removed since Ashmole's time. Thatcham is on the river Kennet, and the Kennet and Avon canal passes near it. The country is here agreeably diversified; the hills on the right are well wooded; and on the left are the rich meadows on the Kennet. Thatcham is within three miles of Newbury, but before passing on to that place it may be convenient to notice some of the neighbouring villages.

WASING, on the left, about one and a half miles from the road, is reached by a bridge over the Emborne, called Sherbet bridge. Wasing house is a handsome mansion, forming a conspicuous object from the main road.

BRIMPTON is also on the left, and about the same distance from the road, passing by Brimpton mills. At the Conquest there was a church in each of the two manors which the parish comprised; and the Knights Templars, it is believed, had once a preceptory here. On Brimpton Common are several tumuli.

BEENHAM is on the right, rather more than a mile from the road. Stackhouse, the Biblical writer, was vicar of this parish, and is buried in the chancel of the parish church, where there is a monument to his memory.

WOOLHAMPTON, also on the right, about three quarters of a mile from the road, is a pleasant and agreeable village, situated beneath the range of hills which bounds the road on that side. The Kennet glides through the meadows on the left. The manor once belonged to the Knights hospitallers. The church was built by Richard de Herclond, rector of the parish, whose burial place is on the north side of the chancel. The fount is ancient and rather curious. After passing Thatcham, Crookham House is one mile and three quarters to the left. The manor of Crookham, which is in the parish of Thatcham, was granted by Edward II., to Piers de Gaveston, who was beheaded at Warwick, in 1312. From Thatcham to Newbury the distance is about four miles.

NEWBURY is seventeen miles from Reading, and fifty-six miles from London. It is on the river Kennet, at the point where the navigation of that river unites with the Kennet and Avon canal; and had in 1831 a population of 3959, or, including Sandleford priory, which is in the parish, 5977. The town is ancient, being supposed to have originated from the Roman station *Spinæ*, which name is still preserved in that of Speenhamland, a hamlet in the parish of Speen, and contiguous to the town of Newbury. As early as the time of William the

Conqueror it was called Newbir or Newbyrig, and under that name was granted by the Conqueror to Ernulph de Heedin. The principal streets are broad and well paved, and the town is lighted with gas. The church is a plain stone building, erected in the reign of Henry VII. There are several large malthouses and corn-mills, and there were formerly some woollen manufactories of importance; but they have long since disappeared.

In the great council convened at Westminster in the reign of Edward III., concerning trade and manufactures, Newbury had three representatives.

The average annual export of flour, malt, and unmanufactured grain is estimated at 7000 tons. The corn-market is held on Thursday. The fairs are held five times in the year. That in October is a statute fair for hiring servants. The Kennet and Avon Canal passes through the town.

The police of the town was described in 1835 as insufficient, and considerable inconvenience was said to arise from the circumstance of the hamlet of Speenhamland forming part of the town without being subject to the jurisdiction of the corporate magistrates. Newbury is a corporate town: the earliest charter of incorporation extant is that of 28 Elizabeth; the charter under which the corporation acted previously to the Municipal Reform Act is dated in the first year of the reign of James II. The revenue of the corporation, derived chiefly from the manor of Newbury, is only 120*l*. Prior to 1818 the corporation derived a considerable income from a toll

upon all grain which passed through the town; but this was contested in the above year, and has not since been paid.

The population of the parish in 1831 was 5959. The parish is in the diocese of Salisbury. The living is a rectory, in the gift of the crown, and valued at 455*l*. per annum.

The 'corporation school,' as it is called, originated from a bequest of Mr. John Kendrick, in 1624, of the sum of 4000*l*., to be applied by the corporation in furnishing employment to the poor of Newbury. Part of the revenue thence arising was first appropriated to the education and clothing of twenty boys in 1706. The funds of this charity were augmented in 1715 by certain landed property named in the will of Mr. Richard Cowlade, the rental of which in 1819 amounted to 97*l*., and the number of boys clothed and educated was in consequence increased to 28. In 1790 there was a further bequest, by James Kimber, of funded property, yielding an annual dividend of 531*l*., which he directed should be employed in the education, clothing, and apprenticing of ten boys. The boys on these three foundations form what is called the Newbury Blue-coat School. They meet in a room adjoining the church, and are taught by the same master reading, writing, and arithmetic. It is to be regretted that so little good should have been effected with such ample means. In 1819, none of the boys had been apprenticed; the master, who had held his situation for many years, was complained of as being neglectful of his duties. The

annual expenditure on account of the charity had not exceeded 150*l.*, and the appropriation of the residue could not be satisfactorily accounted for in consequence of the funds of the charity not having been kept distinct from those of the corporation. In the returns relating to schools and education made to parliament, in pursuance of an address moved by the Earl of Kerry in 1833, no mention is made of this school. The other charities of Newbury, include several almshouses*

In the reign of Edward I., Newbury returned two members to parliament.

At what period it was disfranchised does not appear. It is here that the Easter quarter-session for the county is held. The vicinity of Newbury is remarkable for the battles fought there in 1643 and 1644, between Charles and the parliamentary forces.

Newbury is little more than two miles from the verge of the county. There are three roads leading from it into Hampshire, one to Andover, another to Whitechurch, and the third to Kingsclere. The second of these roads passes SANDLEFORD PRIORY, which is a little to the



[Newbury and Donnington Castle. From an Old Print.]

* See First Report of Charity Commissioners, p. 41.

left of the road, rather more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Newbury, in which parish it is situated. An Augustin Priory was founded here by Geoffry, Earl of Perch, and his wife, about the year 1200. It was forsaken in the reign of Edward IV. (1461-1483) in consequence of a dispute between the prior and the Bishop of Salisbury, and it was then annexed by King Edward to the dean and chapter of Windsor. In the reign of James I. there was a suit in chancery about the tithes, and Sandleford, consisting of only the priory house, was declared a separate parish, and the owner was to have always a pew in Newbury church, and to pay 8*l.* per annum to the rector in lieu of tithes. The old chapel at Sandleford, which contained the monument of a crusader, supposed to be the founder, was, from this time, suffered to fall into decay, and no remains of it now exist. The mansion called Sandleford Priory was built in the Gothic style for Mrs. Elizabeth Montague, widow of Edward Montague, grandson of the first Earl of Sandwich. There is a road from Newbury to Lambourn and the north-western parts of the county: this route is described at the end of the present chapter. p. 111.

We now return to the London and Bath road, which it is necessary to observe does not enter the town of Newbury, but passes through **SPEENHAMLAND**, which forms a sort of suburb of Newbury, though in the parish of Speen. Here was the Roman station *Spinæ*, already mentioned, and it was also one

of the principal scenes of action in the second battle of Newbury, fought in October, 1644, between the troops of Charles I. and those of the Parliament. The famous Bread Table issued in 1795, and called by paupers the *Speenhamland Act of Parliament*, originated at a meeting of the magistrates at the Pelican Inn. Benham Place, in this parish, erected in 1775, was the seat of the Margrave and Margravine of Anspach. It is of the Ionic order, and is situated on the slope between the Bath road and the river Kennet.

About one mile north-west from Newbury, on the main road, is **SPEEN** or Church Speen. A market was formerly held here by grant in 1218, to the Earl of Pembroke. In the church is an altar tomb with the effigy in armour of John Baptist de Castillon, a Piedmontese, to whom one of the two manors in the parish was granted in 1565. There is an effigy of his son's wife, who died in 1603, habited in a farthingale and flowered gown with a veil nearly to the feet. At the distance of one mile and a half to the left of the main road is **ENBORNE**, containing two ancient manors, in which the custom was formerly prevalent, that if the widow of a copyholder married again, or was guilty of incontinency, she forfeited the life interest in her late husband's copyhold, which could only be recovered by her riding into court upon a black ram repeating some dog-grel rhymes.

Passing New Inn, on the main road, **HAMPSTEAD MARSHAL** lies one mile to the left. In 1620 the manor came by

purchase into the family of Craven, one of whom, whose father had been Lord Mayor of London, was created a baron in 1626, and after the Restoration an Earl. A house which had been built in the reign of Elizabeth for a previous possessor of the manor was pulled down, and a new mansion was completed in 1665, which was burnt down in 1718. It was from a design by Sir Balthazer Gerbier, who died on a visit here in 1667, and is buried in the church.

The Half-way House is the next place on the main road after New Inn. About a mile hence on the left, on the banks of the Kennet, is—

KENTBURY, anciently Chenetherie and Kennetbury. It gives its name to the hundred of Kentbury Eagle, and had formerly a market and two fairs. One of the manors in this parish was given to the nuns of Ambresbury by Queen Elfrida on the first foundation of that establishment. The parish church contains monuments of ancient date of the old families who once had their seats in the neighbourhood. About two miles south of Kentbury Eagle is—

WEST WOODHAY, on the borders of Hampshire, seven miles south-west of Newbury, and about six south-east of Hungerford. It had formerly a market, granted in 1318. The old parish church was pulled down, and the brick building erected in its place contains nothing remarkable. Sir Benjamin Rudyerd, a poet and politician, in the time of the Commonwealth, was buried in the old church, which contained a monument to his memory.

ELCOT PARK in the Parish of Kentbury, is close to the main road. About one mile and a half to the left is—

AVINGTON, the parish church of which is an interesting specimen of Saxon architecture, containing a curious arch ornamented with grotesque heads and a zig-zag moulding. The fount is rudely sculptured with curious figures, and appears to be very ancient.

In the parish church of INKPEN, about three miles and a half S.S.E. of Kentbury, there is the monument of a crusader. This parish, with that of SHALBOURN, which lies in the south-west corner of Berkshire, between Hampshire and Wiltshire, will render our notice of the parishes south of the road between Newbury and Hungerford complete. Jethro Tull introduced his practice of husbandry at Prosperous Farm in this parish. It is curious that although drilling, which was first introduced by Tull, is practised pretty generally in the neighbourhood, it is not so now on Prosperous Farm. There is a monument in Inkpen parish church of Francis Choke, who died in 1561, with his effigy in armour, and a beard of extraordinary length. Near Shalbourn is Wrangdyke, said to be the boundary of the Saxon and West-Mercian kingdoms; and on Shalbourn Down, which is the eastern extremity of Salisbury Plain, there is a tumulus from which extensive views may be obtained. Lysons says that the rectory of Shalbourn, which had before belonged to the priory of Sherbourn, constituted a part of the

original endowment of St. George's church, Windsor.

Returning to the point of the main-road from which we diverged, and continuing our journey westward, we soon reach—

HUNGERFORD, eight or nine miles from Newbury, above twenty-five from Reading, and sixty-four or sixty-five from London. It is upon the river Kennet (which, however, is not navigable), and upon the Kennet and Avon Canal. This town bore in ancient times the name of *Ingleford Charnam* or (*Charnam*) *Street*, which Mr. Gough (in his *Additions to Camden*) thinks may be a corruption of the Ford of the Angles on Herman Street, the ancient Roman road. But the Messrs. Lysons doubt whether the name Ingleford applied to more than the site of the manor of Hungerford-Ingleford, which is in the parish; and observe that the name Hungerford as now spelt, occurs in a record as ancient as A.D. 1204. The name Charnam Street is still preserved by one of the avenues to the town, and by one of the tithings into which the parish is divided. The town consists chiefly of one long street, in the centre of which are the market house and shambles, with a room over them in which the town business is transacted. The church, which is in the western quarter of the town, was erected in 1814, in the place of an ancient structure, which appeared to have been built at different dates. In the former church were several memorials of the ancient family of the Hungerfords. The living

is a vicarage, in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Windsor, and in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean of Salisbury; the net income of the vicarage is stated at 429*l.* in the *Ecclesiastical Revenues' Report*, 1835. Near the church is the free grammar-school. The Kennet is here divided into two streams, one of which passes through the town, the other close by it on the north side. The latter is crossed by a bridge at the entrance of the town from Newbury. There appears to be no manufacture in Hungerford of any importance. The market, which is on Wednesday, has been held from time immemorial, and is mentioned as an established market A.D. 1297. There are three fairs. The population of the whole parish, which contains 4450 acres, and extends into Wiltshire, was, in 1831, 2715; {but a considerable portion of this must be rural population. The town is governed by a constable chosen annually by the inhabitants: the other municipal officers are—bailiff, steward, town-clerk, twelve feoffees and burgesses, &c. Hungerford was the birth-place of Dr. Samuel Chandler, an eminent dissenting minister of the last century. There was formerly a hospital of St. John the Baptist in this town, but its site is not known.

The manor of Hungerford was several times in possession of the crown. In 1297 Edward I. granted it to the Earl of Lancaster, from whom it descended to John of Gaunt, who granted the inhabitants a fishery in the Kennet.

An ancient horn is still preserved which he presented at the same time. There is another horn of brass of more recent date which is blown annually at the Manor Court, to summon the tenants. Edward VI. granted the manor to the Duke of Somerset, and on his attainder it was granted to the townsmen of Hungerford, with the exception of the park. Thus, the chief constable is by virtue of his office lord of the manor.

Hungerford Park is situated south-east of the town. At the close of the reign of Queen Elizabeth it was granted to the Essex family, and here the earl built a mansion which was pulled down above forty years ago, and the present house built on its site.

Hungerford being partly in Wiltshire our route here terminates, being from Maidenhead to Hungerford thirty-eight miles.

NEWBURY to LAMBOURNE.

BOXFORD, on the river Lambourne, is situated a little to the right of the road from Newbury to Lambourne, about 4 miles from the former place. The manor belonged to the convent of Abingdon. About one mile and a quarter from Boxford, on the left, is Wickham, a considerable hamlet of the parish of Welford, and which has a chapel of ease, and a parsonage house.

WELFORD is on the main road about six miles from Newbury. The manor belonged to the Abbot and convent of Abingdon. Domesday Survey mentions

two churches at this place, and one at Weston, a hamlet of Welford. The present parish church is very interesting. It has a circular tower at the west end, with small round-headed windows, betokening a Saxon origin, and upon the tower, an elegant Gothic spire, which was added in later times. The chancel has considerable remains of early Gothic interlaced arches, resting on pillars. There are here three stone stalls, one higher than the others, separated by detached pillars, having plain bases, and capitals enriched with foliage. The ancient manor of Benham Level in this parish was held by the service of keeping a pack of dogs at the king's expense for his use. Passing Welford Park on the left, and through the hamlet of Weston before mentioned, we reach—

LITTLE OF EAST SHEFFORD. Here are the remains of an ancient manor-house, built by one of the Fettiplace family, who married an heiress of the house of Besils. The arms of the latter are preserved on the stone-work of some of the windows. The original house appears to have been built about the time of Henry VIII. In the parish church there is, among other monuments, a handsome one, bearing a figure of an armed man, and a female, in alabaster, without inscriptions or arms.

GREAT OF WEST SHEFFORD is also on the road a little nearer to Lambourne. Here King Charles I. was quartered on the 19th of November, 1644. The church, like that of Welford, has a circular tower at the west end, with small

round-headed windows, to which an octangular story has been added at a later period. In it are some remains of stained glass. Near the northern door is a niche richly decorated with pinnacles. There is an ancient font with rich scrolls of foliage, in the enriched Saxon style. About two miles farther on is—

EAST GARSTON, in the hundred of Lambourn, and about ten miles from Newbury. The manor was held by the service of finding a knight clad in plate armour, to serve for forty days in the king's army, at his own cost, whenever the king should be in the territory of Kidwelly in Wales, of which manor this was a member. Passing through Eastbury, which is in the parish of Lambourn, we reach the hamlet of Bockhampton, also in Lambourn parish. At Bockhampton a manor was held in grand serjeantry by the service of keeping a pack of harriers for the royal hunt at the king's charge. William Hobbeshort held an estate in this place by the disgraceful tenure of keeping six common women for the king, at the royal charge.

LAMBOURN, or **CHIPPING LAMBOURN**, stands upon the little river of that name which falls into the Kennet at Newbury. Lambourn is situated in a pleasant and open country, sixty-five miles from London, near the edge of the chalk downs, which cross the county. In the market-place is a tall plain pillar, with an ornamented capital, on an ascent of steps. The church is a handsome Gothic structure in the form of a cross, having two chantry chapels on the south

side, in one of which is a tomb, on which is the effigy of the founder, who died 1585, in copper, habited in a surcoat; and near the churchyard is a hospital for ten poor men, founded by some of the family of Isbury or Estbury. A new set of regulations was framed for this hospital in Queen Elizabeth's reign, when certain usages, considered superstitious, were reformed. This saved the hospital from being dissolved. When Messrs. Lysons wrote their history, they stated that the alms-men were accustomed to attend divine service every morning in one of the chantry chapels, kneeling round the tomb of their founder's father. The living is a vicarage in the gift of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, London, of the average net income of 104*l*. The market is of very ancient date, but has much declined of late years: it is held on Fridays. There are three fairs. Horse races are annually held on Lambourn Downs. The parish is very extensive, containing 14,880 acres, and comprising the whole of the hundred to which it gives its name: it is divided into one township (that of Chipping Lambourn) and three tithings. The population of the township of Chipping Lambourn in 1831 was 1166: that of the whole parish 2386. At Upper Lambourn, an adjacent hamlet, was formerly a free chapel, now destroyed. The manor of Lambourn was given by King Alfred to his wife Ealswith, and in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and at the period of the Domesday survey, it formed part of the royal demesnes.

In the chalk hills in the neighbourhood of Lambourn is the source of the river of that name. Many barrows are found in the neighbourhood of Lambourn, and one of particular note, on these chalk hills north of Lambourn, covered irregularly with large stones - three of the stones have a fourth laid on them in the manner of the British cromlechs. Mr. Wise inclines to think this a Danish monument, while Messrs. Lysons would assign it a British origin. By the country people it is called "Wayland Smith," and they have a tradition of an invisible smith residing

here, who would shoe a traveller's horse, if it was left here for a short time with a piece of money by way of payment. Scott has made use of this tradition in his novel of Kenilworth. Three miles north of Lambourn, on the Downs, is a field called Seven Barrow Field, but the barrows are more numerous than the name implies. There are also barrows at the eastern end of Lambourn Hatts Wood, three miles N. E. of Lambourn, and on the roads from Lambourn to Uffington, and to Kingston Lisle, in various parts.



[Wayland Smith's Cave.]

CHAPTER VIII.

WALLINGFORD TO WANTAGE.

The route between Wallingford and Wantage, and from Wantage to the western parts of the county, again brings the traveller in the vicinity of the line traversed by the Great Western Railway. Within three or four hours he may have left the crowded and busy haunts of the metropolis and be rambling on the most elevated hills of Berkshire in a district rendered interesting from the remains which it possesses of a remote antiquity,—for here are found monuments belonging successively to the ancient Britons and to the Romans, Saxons and Danes. The Stevenage station affords the readiest access to this part of the country, and it is situated about one mile and a half north of the route described in the present chapter. When the traveller has proceeded this distance in a southern direction, he enters the Wallingford and Wantage road, at a point which is distant five miles from Wantage and eight from Wallingford in a direct line. The railway also intersects this line of road at East Hagbourne Marsh, three miles and a half nearer Wallingford, but there is no station. The Faringdon road station affords the most convenient access to the country west of Wantage.

On leaving Wallingford by the high road, and pursuing our route towards Wantage, a direct distance of thirteen miles, we first find, at the distance of about one mile and a half, the little village of SATWELL, where there is a parochial chapel dependent on the church of St. Leonard at Wallingford. At BRIGHTWELL, near Satwell, there was formerly a castle which in 1153 was delivered up to the duke of Normandy, afterwards Henry II., by king Stephen, in pursuance of the agreement concluded at Wallingford. At this period the castle was probably demolished. Its site is not known with any certainty, but it is probably that now occupied by the manor-farm which is surrounded by a moat. In the parish church there is a memorial to Thomas Goodwyn, author of a treatise on Roman and Jewish antiquities.

On the right of the road, about half a mile from Brightwell, is a barrow known by the name of Brightwell's Barrow; and about a mile from thence is SINDUN HILL, in the parish of WITTENHAM, near the banks of the Thames, where there is a large camp of an irregular form, surrounded by a deep trench. This is supposed to have been originally

a British work, but afterwards occupied as a camp by the Romans, whose coins have been frequently found here. About a mile further we find—

LITTLE WITTENHAM. The manor anciently belonged to the Abbot and convent of Abingdon. In the parish church is a costly alabaster monument, bearing the effigies, in armour, of Sir W. Dunch, who married a daughter of Sir Henry Cromwell, (an aunt of the great Protector,) and also the effigies of his lady. Edmund Dunch, their son, was made governor of Wallingford Castle by Cromwell: he was also made a baronet, and eventually a peer; but he was deprived of this last mentioned dignity at the Restoration.

LONG, or EAST WITTENHAM, is about two miles from the road. This was at one period called Earls Wittenham, probably from the then possessors of the manor, the Earls of Warwick.

Returning to the road, on the left, we find, about a mile off, **NORTH MORETON**, in which parish the nuns of Godstow had an estate. **SOUTH MORETON** lies in the same direction, about a mile further.

At **EAST HAGBOURN**, also on the left of the road, from which it is about one mile distant, the parliamentary army under the Earl of Essex was quartered on the 24th of May, 1644. The manor was given by Henry I. to the monastery of Cirencester, founded by him, whose abbot had probably an occasional residence here; and a park was mentioned in the grant of the manor after the Reformation to Sir Francis Knolles. There

was formerly a fair held here. The parish church is a handsome Gothic structure, the north aisle of which, it is recorded, was built by John Juke, who died in 1413. Near the church is a small taper spire, on an ascent of steps. At West Hagbourn, a hamlet of this parish, was formerly a chapel of ease. At Crosscot, or Costcot, another hamlet also of East Hagbourn, is a small cross; and there is another by the roadside between Crosscot and Hagbourn. At Duncot, a little to the right of the road, there is in the parish church a tomb of Sir Richard Blake, who died in 1709.

HARWELL is situated near to the spot where the road runs into the high road from Wantage to Reading and London, about six miles from the former place. The manor anciently belonged to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and king of the Romans. A tablet in the church records a singular benefaction to the poor, made by Christopher Elderfield, an eminent divine and a native of this parish, who died in 1652. "He gave lands for the purpose of purchasing in the spring of every year two milch cows to be given to two of the poorest men in the parish of Harwell, (burthened with families,) for their sustentation." The impossibility of the poor procuring pasture in a neighbourhood where the land is chiefly arable, and we presume the impossibility of deciding who were the poorest men, have caused the trustees to depart from the strict letter of the directions: they now kill every winter, if the rents are sufficient, two cows or

oxen, and distribute the meat generally among the poor. There are almshouses for six poor widows, and various other charities, including one for the education of poor children, for whom a school-house was given by Mr. Eaton, the rector, in 1772.

EAST HENDRED is about four miles east of Wantage. This place was formerly one of the seats of the cloth manufacture. The stewardship of one of the manors in this parish is a nominal office, in the gift of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and is one of the places which may be given for the purpose of vacating a seat in the House of Commons. There is at East Hendred an ancient chapel, supposed to have been erected by the monks of Sheen, to whom the manor just referred to belonged: this chapel now forms two tenements.

WEST, or LITTLE HENDRED, is about one mile nearer Wantage. A manor in this parish was anciently held in grand serjeantry by the service of buying the king's ale. At East Ginge, about a mile farther to the left, is the source of a stream, which falls into the Thames near Monkey Island; and at the distance of about half a mile from East Ginge in the same direction, we come upon a branch of the old Ickleton-street.

Returning towards the road, we find, a little nearer Wantage, East Lockinge and Lockinge Park, the seat of Sir Henry W. Martin, Bart.; and then Ardington, which lies near the road side, about two miles from Wantage. The manor of Ardington was bestowed by Edward III. upon his son, Prince Alice

Ferrers, whose attainder, after Edward's death, caused the estate again to revert to the crown. Before reaching Wantage the road is called the Port Way, a name it bears from hence westward to the boundaries of the county.

WANTAGE, the birth place of Alfred the Great, anciently called Wanating, or Wanting, and which gives name to the hundred in which it is situated, lies on the borders of the vale of the White Horse, on a branch of the river Ocke, sixty miles, in a direct line west from London. The parish comprises the hamlets of Charlton Grove and West Lockinge, and contains 7530 English statute acres. Wantage has been supposed to have been a Roman station. Mr. Wise, the antiquarian, who visited the spot in 1738, stated the vallum was then plainly visible; and Roman coins have been found in an enclosure called Limborough. As a royal seat, Wantage was probably a place of some consequence in the Saxon times. The manor was bequeathed by Alfred to his wife Ealswith, daughter of Ethelred, Earl of Mercia. When the Norman survey was taken, it again formed a portion of the royal demesne. Richard I. gave it to Baldwin de Bethun, Earl of Albemarle, who gave it in frank-marriage to William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke. Through his eldest daughter and co-heiress it passed to Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, who, about 1215, gave it, in reward for military services, to Pulk Fitzwarin, a Norman baron, in whose family it remained for several generations. The Bouchiers, Earls of Bath,

and the Wray family, afterwards possessed the manor by descent. Both the manor and the hundred were anciently held of the manor of Hampstead Marshall, in this county. The only historical event of any importance con-

nected with Wantage is that for which its name has been so celebrated—the birth of Alfred. We may here mention that in 1555 Cardinal Pole caused an enumeration of the number of inhabitants to be made, and the return was not ex-



[King Alfred.]

ceeding 1000. During the Civil War, in 1644, Charles I. and his army, after dismantling the fortifications of Reading, remained here for some days.

The Saxon palace in which Alfred was born Mr. Wisó conceives to have stood on the site of the Roman vallum

before mentioned. The place in question is an enclosure on the south side of the brook that runs through the town, called the High Garden. Its form is that of an oblong square, containing about six acres of ground. Between this place and the river were discovered

the remains of a building, called King Alfred's cellar, which was paved with brick, and appeared to have been a bath. Speed, on the authority of a list of religious houses attributed to Gervase of Canterbury, who lived in the reign of King John, mentions a priory of black nuns at a place called the Ham, in Berkshire. No other record of this establishment appears to exist. Its site is most probably occupied by Ham House in this parish.

The town is governed by a chief constable. Petty sessions for the hundred are held every Saturday, and manorial courts once a-year. The town is very irregularly built, and contains but few edifices of a superior character. Leland says, "There be two churches in this market towne in one churche yarde, but the one is but a chapelle." The chapel is an ancient building, which has been long used as a school. Its north door is of Norman architecture. The church is a spacious handsome cruciform structure, in the Gothic style, with a square embattled tower rising from the intersection. It was either in part or wholly built by the Fitzwarren family, whose arms are placed on the roof. There is an alabaster monument in the church, supposed to be that of Sir Fulk Fitzwarren, who was a knight of the garter. Lysons, however, thinks the monument may refer to Sir William Fitzwarren, also a knight of the garter, as "Sir Fulk is known to have been buried at Whittington." The church also contains several other interesting monuments. Captain Symond, who

visited the church in 1644, mentions the tomb of Richard Davy, a public executioner, who died in 1493, with the effigies, on a brass plate, of himself and wife, and a hatchet as the emblem of his office. The living is a vicarage in the deanery of Abingdon; the patrons are the dean and chapter of Windsor. There are places of worship for the Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists, and Particular Baptists. On the old market cross is the following inscription, "Pray for the good Earl of Bath, and for good master William Barnable, the builder hereof, 1580, and for William Lord Fitzwarren."

The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the manufacture of coarse cloth and twine, and in the flour and malt trade. A branch of the Wilts and Berks canal comes up to the town, by means of which coal is received, and flour, corn, and malt, sent to different parts of the country; particularly to Bath, Bristol, and London. Wantage is a market town by prescription: the market, chiefly for the sale of corn, is held on Saturday. There are four annual fairs, namely, on each of the first Saturdays in March and May for cattle and cheese; July 18, for cherries; and on October 18, a statute fair. A cheese fair is also held on the first Saturday in every month.

In 1597 an act of parliament passed for vesting the town lands of Wantage, given in the reigns of Henry VI. and Henry VII. for charitable uses, in twelve inhabitants, to be deemed a body corporate, and to use a common seal, under the names of the "Governors of

the town lands of Wantage." By this Act the revenues were directed to be appropriated to the relief of the poor, the repair of highways, and the support of a master to teach grammar. Other charities have been also vested in the governors, among them almshouses for thirteen poor people. The whole property now produces an income of 452*l*. The chief expenditure is for the relief of the poor, consisting of the support of the almshouses, money payments to a considerable number of poor people called out-pensioners, donations of bread weekly and yearly, and occasional donations of cloth, great coats, coals, &c. Among the other charities are the almshouses founded by Mr. Robert Styles, in 1680, for twelve poor persons, who receive 3*s*. 6*d*. each weekly, and during half the year an extra 2*s*. weekly from another charity.

The grammar school is now discontinued, for, in 1832, the master having but one scholar, and being in ill health, resigned. For some time after that period no application was made for admittance, and consequently the governors have made no new appointment, thinking the better course would be to increase the salaries of the master and mistress of the English schools. The school is conducted under the general superintendence of the governors. By their permission eight or nine boys are sent by the Baptist minister to the schools, the expense of their education being defrayed by a charity belonging to that sect. There are Sunday schools attached to the church, and to the dissenting chapels.

Continuing our route westward of Wantage, we have about half a mile on the right **EAST CHALLOW**, a hamlet in the parish of Letcombe Regis. The Berkshire and Wiltshire Canal passes through it. Near Challow House is a chapel of ease for the hamlet.

CHILDREY, also on the right, is but a short distance from the road, about three miles from Wantage. There are there some slight remains of an ancient manor house belonging to the manor of Rampanes. The church presents some remains of Saxon architecture, and contains various monuments. There are brass figures of William Fynderne and his lady inlaid with lead; the date is 1444. In the north transept is an altar tomb with the figure of a crusader supposed to be Sir Edmund Chelrey, under an ogee arch richly decorated. The windows are ornamented with stained glass. In the south transept was a chantry founded by W. Fettiplace. There are three stone stalls, of equal height, with plain trefoil arches, and an ancient leaden font divided into compartments, each one bearing the figure of an abbot. Sir Edward Pocock, the learned Orientalist who died in 1691, was buried here. On the left side of the road is Childrey Warren and the Punch Bowl.

WEST CHALLOW, a hamlet of Letcombe Regis, situated about a mile from Childrey, formerly belonged to the nuns of Ambresbury. There is here a chapel of ease.

SPARSHOLT lies a little to the right of the road about four miles from Wantage. The church is interesting. The door

have circular arches with Saxon ornaments, and slender shafts in the early Gothic style on each side. There are three stone stalls of equal height with a piscina adjoining, uniform, and richly decorated with trefoils, crockets, &c. The stalls are divided by detached pillars with plain capitals and bases. In the chancel is an altar tomb ornamented with shields and tracery, and bearing the effigy of a crusader under an ogee arch richly decorated with trefoils and crockets. On the opposite side of the chancel is a similar monument, having however no effigy. Under the south window of the south transept are two altar tombs, bearing each the effigy of a lady carved in wood, with long robe, veil and wimple, and the pillow supported by angels. At the feet of one are two dogs, of the other a lioness. The sides of one of these tombs are ornamented with nine figures of armed knights in different attitudes under arches enriched with foliage. In the same part of the church is the mutilated figure of a knight, also carved in wood, resting on a stone slab on the floor: he is in fluted armour and surcoat, and has a lion at his feet. Kingston Lisle, a hamlet of Sparsholt, about a mile distant, has a chapel of ease. The manor was the property and seat of the noble family of De Lisle, one of whom obtained a licence from the king for enclosing a park here in 1336. Kingston Lisle House was formerly a seat of Lord Craven.

About a quarter of a mile from the road on the left, and about five miles
u Wantage, is a curious stone called

the Blowing Stone. At the back of this stone grows an old elm tree: the stone itself is a species of red sandstone. It is about three feet high, three feet six inches broad, and two feet thick, but is rough and of rather irregular surface. It has several holes in it of various sizes. There are seven holes in the front, three at the top, a large irregular broken hollow at the north end (for it stands north and south), and one if not more holes at the back. If a person blows in at any one of three of the holes, an extremely loud noise is produced, something between a note upon a French horn and the bel-
lowing of a calf, and this can be heard in a favourable state of weather at Faringdon Clump, a distance of about six miles; and a person standing at about a yard distant from either end of the stone while it is blown into will distinctly feel the ground shake. The holes in the stone are of various sizes, but those which if blown into produce the sound easily admit a person's finger. The hole most commonly used to produce the sound is at the top of the stone; and if a small stick, eighteen inches long, be pushed in at this hole it will come out at a hole at the back of the stone, about a foot below the top, and almost immediately below the hole blown into. It is evident that this is the place at which the air finds its exit, as after the stone has been blown into at the top for a considerable time this hole becomes wet. There seems, however, no doubt that there are chambers in the stone, as the irregular broken hollow at the north end of it has evi-

dently formed a part of another place, at which a similar sound might once have been produced. In the neighbourhood there exists a tradition that this stone was used for the purpose of giving an alarm on the approach of an enemy.

About a mile and a half further we find

UFFINGTON CASTLE; a large camp on the White Horse hill just above the village from which its name is derived. It is of an oval shape, about 700 feet in diameter from E. to W., and about 500 feet from N. to S. It is surrounded with a high inner vallum, and a small outer one. White Horse hill is 893 feet high, and the views from it are very extensive in every direction. The White Horse has been connected by Wise with the battle of *Æscesdun*, and it is undoubtedly a work either of Saxon original, or of still higher antiquity. It is the figure of a horse cut in the turf on the north-west face of the range of chalk downs which cross the county at a part where the declivity is at once lofty and steep. Mr. Wise is in raptures with the skill displayed in the work, and in the admirable choice of a situation where it is little exposed to injury or decay. More sober judges, however, describe it as a rude figure, about 374 feet in length. When the afternoon sun shines upon it, it may be seen at a considerable distance—ten, twelve, or even fifteen miles; and from its immense size forms a remarkable object. It has given name to the hill on which it is carved and to the vale above which that hill rises. The inhabitants of the

neighbourhood had an ancient custom of assembling 'to scour the horse,' *i. e.* to clear away the turf where it had encroached upon it. On such occasions a rural festival was held, and they were regaled by the lord of the manor; but it does not appear that they have observed this custom since 1780.

Just under the White Horse hill is a round eminence called Dragon hill which has been supposed to have been the tumulus of some British chief, but it is by no means certain that the mount is at all artificial. Woolston, a hamlet of Uffington, lies between the castle and the village, on the right of the road. We are now at the head of the vale of White Horse which extends from hence to Abingdon.

UFFINGTON is about seven miles from Wantage. The parish church is a handsome edifice in the form of a cross, and built in the earliest style of English architecture. The windows are lancet shaped with slender detached pillars. There are three stone stalls with a piscina adjoining in the interior, of unequal height, with pointed arches and pillars with plain capitals. The spire was destroyed by lightning about 1750. The river Ock rises in the neighbourhood from two or three small springs.

COMPTON BEAUCHAMP a little off the road, also on the right, is about seven miles from Wantage. In the church is an ancient stone seat of considerable length, with an arm at each end. There is also a piscina with the body detached from the wall. On the hill overlooking the village is Hardwell Camp, an ancient

earthwork of a square form, broken by the edge of the hill, and surrounded by a double vallum, except where the steepness of the ascent renders such defence unnecessary. Its dimensions are about 140 paces by 180. It is considered probable that from its form it was a Roman work: the coins of that people have been found about the spot.

ASHBURY is on the road, about nine miles from Wantage. The manor was given by King Edred to the monastery of Glastonbury. Ashdown Park, the seat of the Earl of Craven, is in this neighbourhood. Not far from hence is a circular camp close upon the edge of the county, called Alfred's Castle.

CHAPTER IX.

OXFORD TO ABINGDON AND NEWBURY.

THE Great Western Railway intersects this line of road at Steventon, where there is a station for passengers. Steventon is ten miles from Oxford, about fifteen from Newbury, and four from Abingdon, direct distance; it is the nearest station to Oxford on this railway. Moulsoford Station, also on the Great Western Railway, is about seven miles east of the route described in this chapter. A line drawn from the station in a direction due west would intersect the road about one mile north of East Ilsley, which town is sixteen miles direct distance from Oxford, and nine from Newbury.

Crossing the river Isis by Folly bridge, **SOUTH HINKSEY** is on the right of the road, about two miles from Oxford. This was formerly a hamlet of Cumnor, and was made a parish at the same time as North Hinksey. The road next passes through an extensive wood called Bagley wood, beyond which, on the left, near the banks of the Thames, is Kennington, a hamlet partly belonging to the parish of Sunningwell, and partly to that of Radley. It had formerly a chapel of ease, which many years ago fell down. Having passed through the wood, we find a little beyond it, lying

off the road on the right, the parish of **SUNNINGWELL**. In the church is the monument of Hannibal Baskerville, lord of the manor, who died in 1688, and some memorials of Bishop Fell's family.

Bayworth, a hamlet of Sunningwell, had formerly a chapel of ease much used for private marriages, and which since the important changes in the law made during last century has gone to decay.

RADLEY lies on the left of the road, within three miles of Abingdon. The manor was purchased from the abbot and convent of Abingdon by Geo. Stonhouse, Esq., one of the clerks of green cloth to Queen Elizabeth. His second son Sir George Stonhouse, distinguished himself in the royal cause during the civil war, and was in consequence obliged by the parliamentary sequestrators to pay a large sum as a composition for his estates. The manor afterwards passed to Captain Geo. Bowyer, created a baronet in 1794 for his services in the celebrated engagement with the French fleet, on the 1st of June in that year. In the parish church is a very handsome monument of Sir George Stonhouse, the first baronet, with his effigies in robes. Radley House stands in a large

park. Sigworth, once a considerable hamlet of this parish, is now depopulated. We next reach Abingdon, one of the principal towns in the county, and a place of great antiquity.

ABINGDON, fifty-six miles from London, and twenty-six from Reading, is pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Thames, just at the mouth of the Ock, and at the entrance into the Thames of the Wilts and Berks canal. Its population in 1831 was 5259. It returns one member to parliament. Some have carried back the origin of Abingdon to the time of the Britons. It received its name of Abban dun, or Abben don, the town of the abbey, from the removal hither of a monastery previously fixed at Bagley Wood in the neighbourhood. It was a place of considerable importance in the period of the Saxon Heptarchy; and Offa, King of Mercia, had a palace here. The abbey, which was founded in the twelfth century, flourished under the favour of successive princes; and its revenues, at the dissolution of religious houses, amounted to nearly 2000*l.* per annum. Henry I. was educated in it. The streets are spacious, diverging from the market-place, and are well paved and lighted; the supply of water is also good. The market-house is an elegant structure of freestone, and in it is a spacious hall for transacting public business. The July and October sessions and the summer assizes are held here. Abingdon returns one member to parliament. It has a separate jurisdiction, having obtained a charter of

incorporation in the reign of Philip and Mary, A.D. 1557. There are two handsome churches, those of St. Helen and St. Nicholas; and meeting-houses for the Baptists, Independents, Quakers, and Wesleyan Methodists. There is a free grammar-school well endowed, a national and a British school, and some other foundations for the purposes of education. There are also many almshouses, in the chief of which (Christ's Hospital) thirty-two poor women are supported. The trade of Abingdon consists of malting, hemp-dressing, and sack and sail cloth making: in the latter branch of manufacture there has been a considerable decline since the peace. The corn-market is large. Capacious wharfs and warehouses have been erected at the entry of the Wilts and Berks canal into the Thames.

At a short distance from Abingdon the road crosses the Berkshire and Wiltshire canal, where the latter is only about three quarters of a mile from the Thames. Passing through the hamlet of Sutton Wick, we next find DRAYTON, at a distance of between two and three miles from Abingdon. This was formerly a chapelry dependent on St. Helen's, Abingdon; but the vicars of that church have long ceased to officiate here, or to exercise their right of appointing a curate.

SUTTON COURTNEY lies about two miles to the left of Drayton. The manor at an early period belonged to the abbot and convent of Abingdon. Abbot Rethunus gave it to Kenulf, King of the Mercians and West Saxons, in

exchange for the site of an ancient royal palace, situated near the convent, and where, to the great annoyance of its inmates, the king's hounds and hawks were kept. Henry II. gave the manor to Reginald Courtney, ancestor of the earls of Devonshire. On the attainder of Thomas, Earl of Courtney, for bearing arms at Towton Field against Edward IV., the manor was granted to Sir Walter Devereux. It was afterwards restored to the Courtneys, and again lost by them on the attainder of Henry Courtney, Marquis of Exeter. The church was given to the abbot and convent of Abingdon by William the Conqueror. It contains an ancient font, surrounded with Saxon arches and pillars, between which are foliage and flowers. The rectory house has the appearance of having been a monastic residence, and, it is said, was used by the monks of Abingdon as a place of retirement for their invalids. Some of the rooms of this building retain their ancient form, and several of the ancient windows. Appleford is a large hamlet of Sutton Courtney, about two miles still farther left from the road. There is here a chapel of ease and a cemetery: in the chapel are some monuments of the Justin family. Edmund Bradstock founded a school at Appleford for the education of twenty poor children.

MILTON lies but a short distance from the road, on the left, at a distance of nearly four miles from Abingdon. In the manor house is a chapel fitted up for the service of the Roman Catholic church; the windows are decorated

with stained glass. The free school in this parish was built and endowed by the Rev. G. Warner, the incumbent, at an expense of 2000*l*.

STEVENTON is situated about half a mile from the road, on the right. It had formerly an alien priory of Black Monks, a cell to the Abbey of Bec in Normandy, to which monastery the manor of Steventon had been given by Henry I. In consequence of the seizure of these foreign houses during the wars with France, the manor and the impropriate rectory, with the advowson of the vicarage, were sold by the monastery of Bec to Sir Hugh Calverly. Steventon is the nearest point to Oxford on the Great Western Railway, and is consequently an important station. The line was opened to Steventon in June, 1839.

Harwell on the left and East Hendred on the right are noticed in the route from Wallingford to Wantage p. 115-16; we pass on therefore towards Ilsley. On the way we find, on the left, in the parish of Chilton, Kate's Gore, where there were at one period large stables, built by William, Duke of Cumberland, for his race-horses, and near which the road crosses the Ickleton Street, having barrows in the vicinity of various parts of its course, both to the right and to the left. In this latter direction it runs through a large plain called Blewberry Plain.

About ten miles from Abingdon we find a road on the right which leads to West Ilsley, distant about one mile and a half. The learned Antonio de Dominis, archbishop of Spalatro, was

presented to the rectory by James I. There are breweries in this parish, famous for their beer.

EAST OR MARKET ILSLEY (anciently **Huldesley** or **Hildesley**) is a small market town, eleven miles from Abingdon, nine from Newbury, and fifty-four from London through Reading. It is situated amidst the downs formed by that range of chalk hills which has been described as crossing the county: on these downs a great number of sheep are fed. Although East Ilsley is a very small place, of not more than 738 inhabitants (in 1831), its sheep-market, which commences on the Wednesday in Easter-week, and is held every alternate Wednesday till Whitsuntide, is one of the largest in this part of England. The sheep are purchased by the Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire farmers, and fattened for the London market. There is a market on Wednesday throughout the year, but the great sheep-market is for a limited season, as mentioned above: there are also two fairs. The sheep downs in the neighbourhood are very extensive. In the church is a single memorial, with the date 1606, of the ancient possessors of the manor,] who took their name, Hildesley, from the town. The family has been long extinct.

COMPTON is about two miles from Ilsley. The manor of West Compton in this parish is the paramount manor of the hundred, and belonged formerly to the abbey of Wherwell in Hampshire. Catmereg lies between two or three miles to the right of the road. This parish

had formerly a market on Mondays, granted by Edward I., and a fair. At the commencement of the present century the Messrs. Lysons stated in their 'History of Berkshire,' that it contained but one farm-house and a cottage; but in the census of 1831 the number of houses appears to have been thirteen, inhabited by seventeen families. The church was formerly a chapel to Farnborough. Between Catmereg and Beeton is Stanmore, a hamlet of the latter parish.

BEEDON, formerly **BUDON**, within eight miles from Newbury. This was formerly one of the seats of the Lisle family. Alice de Lisle had the royal permission in 1336 to make a park. The church, which was formerly a chapel to Farnborough, has ancient narrow-pointed windows with slender pillars. Compton Castle is on the left.

PEASEMORE is situated on the right between one and two miles distant from the road. The manor was the property of Thomas, the poet Chaucer's son. William Lyford, a Puritan writer, was born here. The prior of Poghley had a manor in this parish, a part of which is still called Prior's side. The only noticeable inscription in the church is one to the memory of Mr. William Coward, lord of the manor, who died in 1739. This gentleman possessed an income of only 110*l.* a-year; yet out of it he managed to build, at his own expense, a tower to the parish church, to give a great bell and the communion plate, to maintain a hospitable table, and to be considered an eminently

charitable man to the poor. New Langley Hall, a little off the road on the left, is a chapel of ease; and between two and three miles farther in the same direction is Hampstead Norris, which has also been known by the names of Hampstead Cifrewast, Hampstead Ferrars, and Hampstead Norris, as the manor successively belonged to the families indicated by the names affixed.

YATTENDON, also on the left, is about five miles from the road, and about eight from Newbury. It had anciently a market, granted in 1258, with a fair; both have been long discontinued, but there is a fair still held on the 13th of October. In 1147 Sir John Norreys, master of the great wardrobe to Henry VI., and ancestor of Lord Norreys of Rycot, had a licence to embattle the manor house, and to impark 600 acres of land. The mansion here referred to was pulled down long ago, and a new house built on the site. The parish church was built by John Norreys, probably the Sir John before mentioned. The only remarkable monument is that of a Sir John Norreys, who died in 1597, discontented, it is said, at not having been better rewarded for his public services, which are stated in detail on the monument as follows,—

“In memory of Sir John Norreys, knight, the second son to Henry, the first Lord Norreys of Ricot, who in the 14th of Elizabeth, being sent ambassador into France, and managing his business with prudence and honour, was by reason thereof, and his father's suffering for her mother's sake, advanced to the

dignity of a peer of this realm. This Sir John Norreys, that valiant and expert soldier, so famous in his time for his valour and military knowledge, was first trained up in those exercises in the civil war of France, under Admiral Coligni; next in Ireland, under Walter Earl of Essex; then served in the Netherlands, under Matthias Archduke of Austria; after that under John Duke of Loreyne; next under Count William of Nassau, and in the 27th of Elizabeth, 12th of August, was by the queen constituted colonel-general of all the horse and foot, then to pass out of England for the relief of Antwerp, then besieged by the Spaniards; before the end of which month he had another commission from Count Maurice of Nassau, and the same year was empowered to treat with the states-general of the United Provinces for the entertaining those bands of the English foot, as by the queen's instructions were appointed to serve in those parts. Several commissions he had likewise from Robert Earl of Leicester, after he was constituted general of the English auxiliaries in those provinces, viz., two in 28 Elizabeth, and one in 29 Elizabeth. In 30 Elizabeth, being then president of the council in the province of Munster in Ireland, he had a commission bearing date 11th of October, giving him authority to constitute such principal officers, as well by sea as land, as he should think fit for the withstanding all hostile attempts, and for the defence and protection of that realm. In 33 Elizabeth, he was constituted captain-general of those

English auxiliaries which were sent in aid of Henry IV. of France, against his rebellious subjects in Brittany; and having deported himself with great prudence and courage in all those eminent employments, to the no little honour of the English nation, as well as his own name, he departed this life at his house at Yattendon, July 3, 1597, and in the 68th year of his age."

Carte the historian also lies buried in the church. He wrote a great part of his *History of England* in the village. The date of his burial is 1754. About a mile and a half from Yattendon, and nearer to the road, is the small village of Frilsham. Oare, a hamlet of Chieveley, is within about two miles of the road. It has a chapel of ease. About a mile hence is Grimsbury Castle, not far from which is Marston House. A chapel was built at Marston by Sir Jeffrey Martell. Priors' Court, or Curage, now belongs to the dean and chapter of Westminster; Priors' Court House was at one period held under that church.

We now once more return into the road, just at the spot where we find the village of CHIEVELEY. There are three hamlets in this parish having chapels of ease. Oare, already mentioned; Leckhampstead, about two miles from Chieveley, on the right of the road, the manor of which was granted by Edward II. to his favourite Piers Gaveston; and Winterbourn, about the same distance from Chieveley, also on the right, but nearer to Newbury. North Heath is in this parish.

DONNINGTON CASTLE, in the parish of Shaw, is situated about a mile from Newbury, on an eminence thickly wooded, at the base of which runs the river Kennet. It is understood to have been erected by Sir Richard Abberbury, Richard II.'s guardian during his minority, and who was expelled from the court in 1388 by the barons for his adherence to the cause of that monarch. In 1398 Chaucer, the poet, retired here but two years before his death; the castle being, it is supposed, purchased about that time by his son Thomas, who had married a rich heiress. After Thomas Chaucer's death, the estate was settled upon his daughter Alice, through whom William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, the lady's third husband, obtained possession of it. This nobleman considerably enlarged the buildings of the castle, and made it his occasional residence. Upon the attainder of the duke, Henry VIII. granted the estate with the title of Duke of Suffolk, to Charles Brandon. Camden described the castle in his time as a small but neat structure, on the top of a woody hill commanding a pleasant prospect, and lighted by windows on every side. In the beginning of the Civil War the castle was garrisoned for the king, being esteemed a place of considerable importance as commanding the road from Newbury to Oxford. It was first attacked by the parliamentarians under Major-General Middleton in 1643, who, to a summons of a surrender, received a spirited reply from Captain John Boys, the king's officer.

The place was accordingly assaulted, but the besiegers were driven back with great loss. On the 29th September, 1644, Colonel Horton invested the place, and having raised a battery at the foot of the hill near Newbury, continued for twelve days so incessant a fire, that he reduced the castle almost to a heap of ruins; three of the towers and a part of the wall being knocked down. A second summons was now sent, but still in vain; and although the Earl of Manchester came to join in the siege, and the castle was again battered for two or three days, every effort to take the place failed, and ultimately the parliamentarians raised the siege. Captain Boys was knighted for his services on this occasion. After the second battle of Newbury, the same gallant officer secured the king's artillery under the walls, whilst the latter retired towards Oxford; upon which the castle was once more attacked, the Earl of Essex being the leader, but as fruitlessly as ever. In a few days, the king was allowed to re-victual the garrison without opposition. The only part of the castle now remaining is the entrance gateway, with its two towers, and a small portion of the walls. These ran nearly parallel to the cardinal points of the compass, with the principal entrance to the east. The western part of the building terminated in a semi-octagon shape. The walls were defended by round towers at the angles. The length of the eastern end, including the towers, was about eighty-five feet, and the extent, from east to

west, about 120 feet. The gateway is in good preservation, and the place for the portcullis is still visible. A staircase winds up the southern tower, the summit of which commands an exceedingly beautiful prospect of the Hampshire hills, and of the intervening country. Round the castle, occupying nearly the whole eminence, are the remains of the entrenchments thrown up in the Civil War, and the evident strength of which help to explain the successful defence of the castle. At the conclusion of the Civil War, the ruinous parts of the building were taken down and used in the building of a mansion at the bottom of the hill, called the Castle House.

The hospital of Donnington appears to have been founded by Sir Richard Abberbury, who, in the sixteenth year of Richard II.'s reign, obtained a licence to build an hospital for the support of poor persons, and endowed it with certain lands. One of the almsmen was to be placed over the others, and called "Minister of God of the Poor-house of Donnington." After the dissolution, the estate remained in the possession of the Crown until about 1570, when, on the petition of Charles Earl of Nottingham, it was restored to the hospital; which from that time was called "The hospital of Queen Elizabeth at Donnington, in time past begun to be founded by Sir Richard Abberbury, Knight; and by Charles Howard, Earl of Nottingham, perfected and consummated." The house it is supposed was rebuilt about the same period by the earl. It con-

tains twelve superior tenements for as many almsmen, a large room called the Hall, for common use, and apartments for the minister, all in excellent repair. The annual rental of the hospital is now 112*l.*, in addition to which its casual receipts from fines, &c., have averaged, for the years 1830 to 1836, 288*l.* The inmates altogether receive about 7*s.* a week each. There was here a house of Trinitarian or Maturine friars. The earliest notice of this establishment occurs in a deed connected with Sir Richard Abberbury, his letter bearing date, 17th of Richard II., wherein Sir Richard directed, that the almsmen should "every daye go to masse to a Chappel of Fryers near adjoining, and should say sixty Pater-nosters, and as many Ave-Marias," Henry White, the last prior, surrendered the house in 1539, when its net revenue, was 19*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* The house called Donnington Priory now marks the site of this ancient establishment, of which there are yet some slight remains. The mansion called the Grove was built by Petit Andrews, Esq., the author of the "History of Great Britain considered with the Chronology of Europe," and greatly improved by W. Brummel, Esq., secretary to Lord North. It is delightfully situated at the foot of the hill on which stands the castle. The library is large and handsome, and there are some good paintings in the different rooms. The stream of the Lambourn here widens into a river,

and forms a fine piece of water in its progress through the grounds.

SHAW is on the left of the road, one mile from Newbury. The manor was possessed, in the time of Elizabeth, by Mr. Dolman, a rich clothier of Newbury, who, in 1581 completed the stately mansion now known as Shaw Place, and which is said to have greatly excited the envy of his neighbours: the following lines have been preserved as one of the popular expressions of this feeling—

"Lord have mercy upon us miserable
sinners:

Thomas Dolman has built a new house,
And has turned away all his spinners."

Over the portico is this inscription: *Edentulus vescentium dentibus invidet et oculus caprearum talpa contemnit.*" In the second battle of Newbury the King's troops were posted here under the command of Lieut.-Col. Page, who being attacked by a large body of foot, repulsed them with great loss. A basket-full of cannon balls, thrown either during this battle of Newbury, or in the siege of Donnington Castle, and picked up from different parts of the grounds, is still preserved. In an old oak wainscot of a bow window is a small hole about the height of a man's head, which, according to tradition, was made by a bullet fired at the king whilst dressing at the window, and which very narrowly missed. The church presents some Saxon remains.

CHAPTER X.

OXFORD TO FARINGDON.

THE Great Western Railway does not intersect this road from Oxford to Faringdon, but passes for some distance in a line nearly parallel to it. A line drawn from the Steventon station to the nearest point of the road would intersect it between Fifield and Kingston Bagpuze, midway between Oxford and Faringdon. The Faringdon Road station is about six miles from the town of Faringdon.

The turnpike road enters the county at Botley, a tithing of Cumnor, situate near the Thames, about a mile from Oxford; and turning to the right, and proceeding for about two miles in a direction parallel to the course of the river, we find the decayed village of WITHAM. This is in the hundred of Horner, and situated at the foot of a hill, on the summit of which are yet visible the remains of a desolated fortress, supposed to have been built by Kinewulf, King of the West Saxons, during his wars with Offa, King of the Mercians. It is understood to have fallen into the possession of the latter, and made by him a place of residence. In ancient times there was a nunnery at Witham, founded originally at Abingdon, by the sister of King Ceadwall. It was deserted by the nuns

in consequence of the erection of the castle, and never again inhabited by them. The manor-house was built by one of the Harcourt family. It is a very old stone structure, with an embattled tower, surmounted by two octangular turrets, and the whole surrounded by a moat. The hall remains nearly in its original state. In the wall of the parish church are brass figures of the original possessors of the manor—the Wygtham family: there was also at one period a memorial of Edward Purcell, brother of the great musician. The battle through which Offa obtained possession of the castle was fought, according to tradition, at a place called Sandfield, in the neighbourhood where Hearne, in his 'Liber Niger,' says armour swords, and human bones have been found. Sackworth, in the vicinity of Witham, was formerly a large town, abounding, says Mr. Warton, in his 'History of Kiddington,' with inns for the reception of pilgrims. This place has fallen into complete insignificance. Some remains of the original buildings are, it is said, yet visible on the banks of the river, including the fragments of a bridge which crossed the stream to Binsey. Returning to Botley, we find,

at a distance of about a mile from the high road on the left—

NORTH HINKSEY, which was formerly a hamlet of Cumnor; but Montague, second Earl of Abingdon, endowed the chapel with vicarial tithes, and made it a parish. The manor formerly belonged to the abbot and convent of Abingdon. The church has but one door-way, which is of Saxon workmanship. Within it is a memorial of Thomas Willis, father to the celebrated Dr. Willis, and ancestor of Browne Willis, who died in the royal cause at the siege of Oxford. An inscription on the monument of W. Finmore, fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, who died in 1646, begins thus: "Reader, look to thy feet; honest and loyal men are sleeping under them." There is a cross in the churchyard. Again returning to the high road, we find

CUMNER, or Cumnor, about three miles nearly west of Oxford, and situated on the brow of a hill, commanding a very extensive prospect over the counties of Oxford and Gloucester. The manor belonged to the abbots of Abingdon, who had a house here for retirement in case of the plague, sickness, &c., prevailing at Abingdon. After the Reformation, this house was granted to the last abbot for life, and on his death came into possession of Anthony Forster, whose epitaph in Cumnor church speaks highly of him as being amiable and accomplished. But in Ashmole's 'Antiquities of Berkshire' he is represented as one of the parties to the murder of the first Countess of Leicester, who was secretly despatched while staying at

Cumnor by the order of her husband' who was then aspiring to the hand of Queen Elizabeth. The following extract from Ashmole details the principal circumstances of this melancholy story:—
"Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, a very goodly personage, and singularly well featured, being a great favourite to Queen Elizabeth, it was thought, and commonly reported, that had he been a bachelor, or widower, the queen would have made him her husband: to this end, to free himself of all obstacles, he commands his wife, or perhaps with fair flattering entreaties, desires her to repose herself here at his servant Anthony Forster's house, who then lived at the aforesaid manor-house (Cumner-place); and also prescribed to Sir Richard Varney, (a prompter to this design,) at his coming hither, that he should first attempt to poison her, and if that did not take effect, then by any other way whatsoever, to despatch her. This, it seems, was proved by the report of Dr. Walter Bayly, sometime Fellow of New College, then living in Oxford, and Professor of Physic in that University, who, because he would not consent to take away her life by poison, the earl endeavoured to displace him from the court. This man, it seems, reported for most certain that there was a practice in Cumnor among the conspirators to have poisoned this poor innocent lady, a little before she was killed, which was attempted after this manner:—They seeing the good lady sad and heavy, (as one that well knew by her other handling that her death was not far off,) began to persuade

her that her present disease was abundance of melancholy, and other humours, &c. And therefore would needs counsel her to take some potion, which she absolutely refusing to do, as still suspecting the worst: whereupon they sent a messenger on a day (unawares to her) for Dr. Bayly, and entreated him to persuade her to take some little potion by his direction, and they would get the same at Oxford, meaning to have added something of their own for her comfort, as the doctor, upon just cause and consideration, did suspect, seeing their great importunity, and the small need the lady had of physio; and therefore he peremptorily denied their request, misdoubting (as he afterwards reported) lest if they had poisoned her under the name of his potion, he might have been hanged for a colour of their sin; and the doctor remained still well assured, that this way taking no effect, she would not long escape their violence, which afterwards happened thus:—For Sir Richard Varney aforesaid, (the chief projector in this design,) who by the earl's order remained that day of death alone with her, with one man only, and Forster, who had that day forcibly sent away all her servants from her to Abingdon market, about three miles distant from this place, they, I say, whether first stifling her, or else strangling her, afterwards flung her down a pair of stair and broke her neck, using much violence upon her; but yet, however, though it was vulgarly reported, that she by chance fell down stairs, but yet without hurting her hood that was upon her head.

Yet the inhabitants will tell you there, that she was conveyed from her usual chamber where she lay to another, where the bed's head of the chamber stood close to a privy postern door, where they, in the night came and stifled her in her bed, bruised her head very much, broke her neck, and at length flung her down stairs, thereby believing the world would have thought it a mischance, and so have blinded their villany. But, behold the mercy and justice of God in revenging and discovering this lady's murder; for one of the persons that was a coadjutor in this murder was afterwards taken for a felony in the marches of Wales, and offering to publish the manner of the aforesaid murder, was privately made away with in prison by the earl's appointment. And Sir Richard Varney, the other, dying about the same time in London, cried miserably, and blasphemed God, and said to a person of note (who has related the same to others since) not long before his death, that all the devils in hell did tear him in pieces. Forster, likewise, after this fact, being a man formerly addicted to hospitality, company, mirth, and music, was afterwards observed to forsake all this, and being affected with much melancholy (some say with madness) pined and drooped away. The wife, too, of Bald Butler, kinsman to the earl, gave out the whole fact a little before her death. Neither are the following passages to be forgotten:—That as soon as ever she was murdered, they made great haste to bury her before the coroner had given

in his inquest, (which the earl himself condemned as not done advisedly,) which her father Sir John Robertsett (as I suppose), hearing of, came with all speed hither, caused her corpse to be taken up, the coroner to sit upon her, and further inquiry to be made concerning this business to the full; but it was generally thought that the earl stopped his mouth, and made up the business betwixt them; and the good earl, to make plain to the world the great love he bore to her while alive,—what a grief the loss of so virtuous a lady was to his tender heart,—caused (though the thing by these and other means was beaten into the heads of the principal men of the University of Oxford) her body to be re-buried in St. Mary's Church in Oxford, with great pomp and solemnity. It is remarkable, when Dr. Babington, the earl's chaplain, did preach the funeral sermon, he tript once or twice in his speech, by recommending to their memories that virtuous lady so pitifully *murdered* instead of saying pitifully slain."

It is needless to state that Sir Walter Scott's novel of 'Kenilworth' is founded upon the above circumstantial statements of Ashmole; but he tells us that his first acquaintance with the history was through the medium of Mickles' ballad about Cumnor, which he read when a youth. This piece has not found its way into many collections of popular poetry, and as it possesses a local interest, while it will also be new to some readers, we therefore give it with the orthography modernised:—

CUMNOR HALL.

The dews of summer night did fall;
The moon, sweet regent of the sky,
Silver'd the walls of Cumnor Hall.
And many an oak that grew thereby.

Now nought was heard beneath the skies
The sounds of busy life were still,
Save an unhappy lady's sighs,
That issued from that lonely pile.

"Leicester," she cried, "is this thy love
That thou so oft hast sworn to me,
To leave me in this lonely grove;
Immured in shameful privy?"

"No more thou com'st with lover's speed,
Thy once beloved bride to see;
But be she alive, or be she dead,
I fear, stern Earl, 's the same to thee.

"Not so the usage I received
When happy in my father's hall;
No faithless husband then me grieved,
No chilling fears did me appal.

"I rose up with the cheerful morn,
No lark more blithe, no flower more gay;
And like the bird that haunts the thorn,
So merrily sung the livelong day.

"If that my beauty is but small,
Among court ladies all despised,
Why didst thou rend it from that hall,
Where, scornful Earl, it well was prized:

"And when you first to me made suit,
How fair I was you oft would say!
And, proud of conquest, pluck'd the fruit,
Then left the blossom to decay.

"Yes! now neglected and despised,
The rose is pale, the lily's dead;
But he that once their charms so prized
Is sure the cause those charms are fled.

"For know, when sick'ning grief doth prey,
And tender love repaid with scorn,
The sweetest beauty will decay,—
What floweret can endure the storm?"

"At court, I'm told, is beauty's throne,
Where every lady's passing rare,
That Eastern flowers, that shame the sun,
Are not so glowing, not so fair.

"Then, Earl, why didst thou leave the beds
Where roses and where lilies vie,
To seek a primrose, whose pale shades
Must sicken when those gauds are by?

"'Mong rural beauties I was one,
Among the fields wild flowers are fair;
Some country swain might me have won,
And thought my beauty passing rare.

"But, Leicester, (or I much am wrong,)
Or 'tis not beauty lures thy vows;
Rather ambition's gilded crown
Makes thee forget thy humble spouse.

"Then, Leicester, why, again I plead,
(The injured surely may repine.)—
Why didst thou wed a country maid,
When some fair princess might be thine?

"Why didst thou praise my humble charms,
And, oh! then leave them to decay?
Why didst thou win me to thy arms,
Then leave to mourn the livelong day?

"The village maidens of the plain
Salute me lowly as they go;
Envious they mark my silken train,
Nor think a Countess can have woe.

"The simple nymphs! they little know
How far more happy's their estate;
To smile for joy—than sigh for woe—
To be content—than to be great.

"How far less blest am I than them!
Daily to pine and waste with care!
Like the poor plant, that, from its stem
Divided, feels the chilling air.

"Nor, cruel Karl, can I enjoy
The humble charms of solitude;
Your minions proud my peace destroy,
By sullen frowns or pratings rude.

"Last night, as sad I chanced to stray,
The village death-bell smote my ear;
They wink'd aside, and seemed to say,
'Countess, prepare, thy end is near!'

"And now, while happy peasants sleep,
Here I sit lonely and forlorn;
No one to soothe me as I weep,
Save Philomel on yonder thorn.

"My spirits flag—my hopes decay—
Still that dread death-bell smites my ear;
And many a boding seems to say,
'Countess, prepare, thy end is near!'

Thus sore and sad that lady grieved,
In Cumnor Hall, so lone and drear;
And many a heartfelt sigh she heaved,
And let fall many a bitter tear.

And ere the dawn of day appeared,
In Cumnor Hall, so lone and drear.
Full many a piercing scream was heard,
And many a cry of mortal fear.

The death-bell thrice was heard to ring,—
An ærial voice was heard to call,—
And thrice the raven flapp'd its wing
Around the towers of Cumnor Hall.

The mastiff howl'd at village door,
The oaks were shattered on the green;
Woe was the hour—for never more
That hapless Countess e'er was seen!

And in that manor now no more
Is cheerful feast and sprightly ball;
For ever since that dreary hour
Have spirits haunted Cumnor Hall.

The village maids, with fearful glance,
Avoid the ancient moss-grown wall;
Nor ever lead the merry dance
Among the groves of Cumnor Hall.

Full many a traveller oft hath sigh'd,
And pensive wept the Countess' fall,
As wand'ring onwards they've espied
The haunted towers of Cumnor Hall.

The ancient structure consisted of a quadrangle of about seventy-two feet in length and fifty in breadth. In a field adjoining the churchyard are still visible some remains of Cumnor Place; but in 1810 most of the ruins, which were in a dangerous state, were pulled down.

The west door of the parish church of Cumnor is in the Saxon style. In the interior are two ancient tombs, supposed to be of abbots of Abingdon, and a monument to the Anthony Forster before mentioned. In different parts of the parish are the remains of crosses. The parishioners who pay vicarial tithes, claim a custom of being entertained at the vicarage on the afternoon of Christmas Day with beer, bread, and cheese. About two miles from Cumnor, lying a little off the road to Abingdon, is Wooton, formerly a hamlet of Cumnor, but which was made a parish by the Earl of Abingdon in the early part of the last century. About a mile and a half north of Cumnor is a ferry across the Isis, to Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire.

BESILSLEGH is about two miles from Cumnor on the high road to Faringdon. Here resided Wm. Lenthal, the Speaker of the Long Parliament. There was also formerly a manor-house of stone in this place, wherein was kept the famous picture of Sir Thomas More's family. About a mile off, on the right of the road, is APPLETON, which is in the hundred of Ock, and where there is a rare specimen of a very ancient mansion.

In the parish church is a handsome monument of Sir John Fettiplace, who died in 1593, with his effigies in armour; and the tomb of John Goodryngton, with a figure in brass of a shrouded skeleton. At Finteynes, in this parish, was formerly a large mansion, moated round. Continuing our route towards

Faringdon, we find Tubney House and TUBNEY, which lies on the high road from Faringdon to Abingdon, about four miles from the latter place. The church of Tubney has been long since destroyed, and on the induction of a new rector, divine service is performed in the open air. Within the manor are some extensive woods. About half a mile farther on, we reach

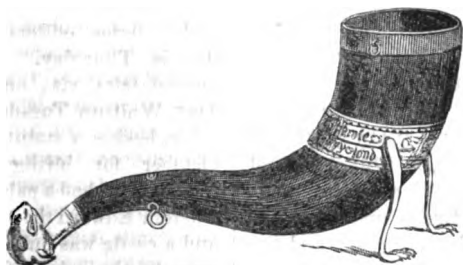
FYFIELD, formerly Fyfhide. A chantry or hospital was founded here in 1442, pursuant to the will of Sir John Golafre, whose monument is in the north aisle of the church. His effigy in armour lies upon an open altar-tomb, having beneath the figure of a shrouded skeleton. On the north side of the chancel is an altar-tomb, from which the brass plates have been removed, erected in memory of Lady Gordon; it stands under an obtuse arch with a roof of rich tracery, blue and gold; over the arch is a cornice of gilt foliage. About a mile distant from Fyfield, also on the high road, is

KINGSTON BAGPUZE, where there is a small but neat church, erected about the beginning of the present century, and a manor-house, also modern. At Newbridge, in this parish, which derives its name from the bridge there thrown over the Thames, the parliamentary army was repulsed by the king's whilst attempting to cross, on the 27th of May, 1644.

LONGWORTH lies at a distance of nearly two miles from the high road, on the right. The manor was purchased early in the seventeenth century by Sir Henry Marten, father of the Henry

Marten who so distinguished himself in the Civil War. There are memorials of the family in the church. Bishop Fell was born here in 1625. In an insulated part of this parish, which lies on the left of the high road, is an ancient entrenchment called Cherbury Camp, standing, according to tradition, on the site of a palace which belonged

to Canute. The camp is in shape between an oval and a circle, and double ditched; its longest diameter is 310 paces. Charney Basset is a hamlet, though a considerable one, of this parish, and lies also to the left of the high road, at a distance of about two miles. There is here a chapel of ease of Saxon architecture. The manor



[The Pusey Horn.]

was originally in the possession of the abbot and convent of Abingdon.

HINTON WALDRIDGE, about one mile and a quarter on the right of the road, and about six miles from Faringdon, was formerly a market town. There are here traces of another ancient camp. About a mile from Hinton Waldrige is a ferry across the Isis to Duxford, in Oxfordshire.

PUSEY, in the hundred of Ganfield, lies about a mile distant from the road on the left. The manor is said to have been granted to the family by King Canute, and the well-known horn is still preserved, by which the grant, it is said, was originally made. According to the description given of it by Gough, it is the horn of an ox, of a dark-brown tortoise-

shell colour, mounted at each end, and about the middle, with silver rings; the stopper is shaped like a dog's head. The middle ring has two small feet affixed to it, and bears the following inscription: "I, Kyng Knoude, geve William Pewse thys horne to holde by thy londe." The characters are said to be of a much later date than Canute's time, and consequently doubt has been thrown upon the genuineness of the horn. According to tradition, the horn and the land were originally given by Canute to an officer in his army as a reward for his vigilance in discovering and informing him of an ambuscade formed by the Saxons to intercept him. In the reign of Edward I., Alice Paternoster held lands in Pusey by the tenure of saying

a paternoster five times a-day for the souls of the king's ancestors; and it appears that Richard Paternoster, on succeeding to an estate (probably the same) in this parish, instead of paying a sum of money as a relief, said the Lord's Prayer thrice before the barons of the Exchequer, as John his brother had done before him. The church contains some ancient monuments.

Four miles from Faringdon we find **BUCKLAND**, lying a little to the right of the road. Thomas, son of the poet Chaucer, possessed this manor in 1436. Buckland House was built by Sir Robert Throckmorton, bart., in 1757. Several of the principal rooms are very handsome. In the dining and drawing-rooms are some fine pictures; and the library has a ceiling painted by Cipriani, which is much admired. The grounds are beautifully laid out. At Tadpole, about two miles from Buckland House, is a bridge over the Isis, leading to Bampton, in Oxfordshire. Carswell House stands in the parish of Buckland.

On the left of the road we have been pursuing, about four miles from Faringdon, on the road from that place to Wantage, is **STANFORD IN THE VALE**, so called from its situation in the vale of the White Horse, of which its handsome Gothic church and tower form a distinguished feature. There was formerly a market here, but it has been long discontinued. A fair was also granted with the market in 1236 by the charter of Henry III. A mile and a half nearer Faringdon, we find, on the left of the road we have last mentioned,

SHILLINGFORD, where there is an ancient manor-house, formerly called Shillingford Castle. The parish church has a nave with ancient semicircular arches, and contains various monuments.

FARINGDON is pleasantly situated on an eminence, thirty-six miles north-west by west from Reading, and sixty-nine miles and a half west by north from London. It is governed by a bailiff and inferior officers. The market-day is Thursday. There are three annual fairs, viz., on Old Candlemas Day, Whitsun Tuesday, and 29th October, besides a statute fair on the 18th October for hiring servants. The Saxon kings had a palace at Faringdon, wherein Edward the Elder died in 925; and a castle was built here during the wars in the reign of Stephen, by the Earl of Gloucester, or his son, but was totally destroyed a few years after by Stephen. In 1202 this king founded at Faringdon a priory of Cistercian monks subject to the abbey of Beaulieu, in Hampshire, and here, according to a manuscript in the Bodleian Library, King Henry III., his queen, and Prince Edward passed a night, being entertained at the cost of the Abbot of of Beaulieu. The expense of the king's entertainment amounted to 100*s.* 6*d.*, the queen's to 75*s.*, and Prince Edward's to 50*s.* 6*d.* This priory, like the castle above-mentioned, has long since been entirely ruined, and no vestige is left of either of them. Faringdon House was, during the Civil War, made a garrison, and Sir Marmaduke Rawdon appointed its governor, whose memory is

commemorated by an inscription in the parish church. Cromwell himself, on one occasion, in June, 1645, attacked it unsuccessfully; and a second attack was made with a like result under the command of the owner of the house, Sir Robert Pye. From this family the poet laureate, Henry James Pye, Esq., was descended. King Charles was at Faringdon after the second battle of Newbury. Near Radcot Bridge, about three miles to the north of Faringdon, was fought the battle between Robert Vere, Duke of Ireland, and the Earl of Derby, afterwards King Henry IV. The parish church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is a large and handsome structure in the Gothic style, and contains many old monuments, described in Ashmole's 'Antiquities of Berkshire.' (Lond. 1719). It has a low square tower, formerly surmounted by a spire, which was destroyed during the Civil War. The vicarage is in the diocese of Salisbury, and its average net income is 265*l*. The parish of Great Faringdon is partly in the hundred of Faringdon and partly in that of Shrivenham. According to the population returns for 1831, the entire parish contained 3033 inhabitants and 6910 statute acres.

There are roads from Faringdon into Gloucestershire by Lechlade; into Wiltshire by Highworth, and another into the same county by Swindon.

On the road from Faringdon to Lechlade, in Gloucestershire, the only places requiring even brief notice, are EATON HASTINGS, a village on the right, about three miles from the former, and Bus-

oot House, about the same distance, situated in a park of 150 acres, near the road, from which it is seen to great advantage. The building was completed in 1783. A short distance from Lechlade we reach the Thames, which is here the boundary of the county, and spanned by a bridge called St. John's bridge.

On the road from Faringdon to Highworth, in Wiltshire, we find, first, Badbury Hill, situated about two miles from the former. Here, almost close to the road, is a Danish camp of a circular form, about 200 yards in diameter, with a ditch about 20 yards wide. Human bones have been found here very frequently. Leland mentions it as a "great dicke wher a fortresse or rather a camp of war, had beene, as some sayd, by the Danes as a sure camp." Mr. Wise, in his letter to Dr. Mead, supposes that the battle of Mons Badonicus, or Bradbury Hill, in the year 520, mentioned by Bede and Gildas, in which Arthur gained his twelfth victory, was fought near the White Horse Hill: this neighbourhood therefore was very probably the scene of the engagement. Two miles farther we find—

Coleshill House, the seat of the Earl of Radnor, a perfect specimen of the style of Inigo Jones, as it was erected from his design in 1650. The elevation is simple, yet imposing,—a perfect quadrangular shape, and divided at a case-ment and two principal stories. There is a happy symmetry observed throughout. The interior contains some good paintings, and is very characteristic of the

tastes of the times, with its ponderous chimney-pieces, cornices, &c., and with the profusion of its carvings and gildings. The grounds are beautiful. The Cole, which most probably gives name to the parish and the house, glides through a valley which skirts the western side of the park. The parish church of COLESHILL is a neat stone building, having a handsome square tower with battlements and pinnacles. In the chancel is a handsome monument to Sir Henry Pratt, bart., who died in 1647. There is a curious circular window in the south aisle, on which the arms of Sir R. Mark Stuart and his lady are represented in painted glass. In the same aisle is an elegant marble cenotaph, by Rysbraoh, to the memory of the only daughter of the above-mentioned persons, and wife of Mr. W. Bouverie, afterwards Earl of Radnor. The east window of the chancel contains a fine painting in stained glass, of the Nativity, brought from Angiers, in 1787, by the Earl of Radnor. The south transept is all that remains of a chapel, built about 1499, by Thomas Pleydell-Esq.: it is now fitted up as a pew for Lord Radnor's family. About a mile and a half from Coleshill is Stratton, borough Castle.

On the road to Swindon we find, on the left, **LITTLE COXWELL**; and, on the right, **GREAT COXWELL**, each about a mile and a half distant from Faringdon. At the last place is a great barn, built by the abbots of Beaulieu, to whom the manor was granted by King John in 1204. It is a remarkably fine piece of

masonry, measuring 148 feet by 40, with walls four feet thick, and the roof supported by two rows of large upright timbers, resting on massive stone piers.

At Longcot, a hamlet of Shrivenham, on the left of the road, about four miles from Faringdon, is a chapel of ease.

SHRIVENHAM is about five miles from Faringdon. This was anciently a place of considerable note, with a market and a fair, both long since discontinued. The manor was granted by King John to Geoffrey Earl of Perch (1199—1216). The church is a large and handsome Gothic structure. In the interior is a double row of circular columns and arches, extending the whole length of the building, forming aisles both to the nave and to the chancel. The tower in the centre is supported by four pointed arches. There are various monuments of the Barrington family: we may mention that to Viscount Barrington, who died in 1793, and who had filled the distinguished post of Chancellor of the Exchequer; and Admiral Barrington, who acquired considerable reputation by his various naval achievements, particularly in the capture of a French ship of sixty guns, whose flag is preserved here; and in the repulse, at St. Lucia, in 1779, of a very superior French force. There is also a monument to Sir John Wildman, alderman of London and postmaster-general, who died in 1693, and who directed by his will "that if his successors should think fit, there should be some stone, of small price, set near his ashes to signify, without foolish flattery, to his posterity,

that in that age lived a man who spent the best part of his days in prisons, without crimes, being conscious of no offence towards man, for that he so loved his God that he could serve no man's will, and wished the liberty and happiness of his country, and of all mankind." It is also recorded that his son, John Wildman, preferred confinement with his father for many years, whilst a prisoner of state in the Isle of Scilly, in the reign of Charles II., to the enjoyment of his liberty. Becket Park is in this parish. The manor formerly belonged to the Earl of Evreux, from whom it passed into the possession

of the crown, and became a royal residence. King John occasionally visited here. In the reign of Edward III. the manor was in the possession of the family of Becket or Becote, who held lands in Shrivenham by the following singular tenure: Whenever the king in his progresses should pass by Fowyeare's-Mill bridge in Shrivenham two white capons were to be presented with this address, "*Ecce, domine, istos duos capones, quos alias habetitis, sed non nunc.*"* Becket's house is built in the Gothic style.

* Behold, my lord, these two capons, which you shall have another time, but not now.

CHAPTER XI.

OXFORD TO HUNGERFORD.

WANTAGE and several other places on this route are described in former chapters, to which a reference is made at the proper place. This route completes our itinerary of the county so far as the principal turnpike roads are concerned. The Great Western Railway crosses the road from Oxford to Hungerford about two miles north of Wantage, twelve miles from Oxford, and eighteen from Hungerford: the Steventon station is the one nearest the road, being about three miles from East Hanney and five from Wantage.

As far as Besilsleigh the turnpike road is the same as that we have described in the route from Oxford to Faringdon in the previous chapter. We therefore commence from Besilsleigh, and crossing Frilford Heath, we reach Frilford, a hamlet of the parish of MARCHAM, which lies about three miles off on the left on the Abingdon road. Marcham, about three miles from Abingdon, was the seat of the well-known misers, Sir Harvey Elwes, and of his heir John Elwes, Esq., whose life has been so interestingly written by Topham. In the church is a tomb to Sir Richard Corbet, who died in 1403, with his effigies engraved on a brass plate; and an ancient

wooden rood loft. On the right of the road, about a mile from Frilford is Garford, also a hamlet of Marcham. About half a mile from Frilford we cross the river Ock, and a mile and a half from this we find

EAST HANNEY, a hamlet of West Hanney, within about four miles from Wantage lying by the road-side. There were here formerly three manors, one of them belonging to the priory of Noyon in Normandy. WEST HANNEY is situated at a distance of about three quarters of a mile on the right of the road, and about three and a half miles north of Wantage. The manor belonged to the alien priory of Newton-Longueville in Buckinghamshire. The manor of North Denchworth in this parish was purchased of Ralph de Camois, one of the barons opposed to King John, by Adam Fettiplace, who seems to have been the first of that very ancient family who settled in Berkshire. In the church, which contains some Saxon remains, is the tomb of Sir Christopher Lytcoth who was knighted in the camp before Rouen in 1591, by Henry IV. of France. There are various other family memorials. Passing through Grove, a hamlet of Wantage, we find ourselves within a short

distance of that town, which we have described in the previous chapter.

Near the Red House, about four miles from Wantage, our route crosses the ancient Ridge-way, or Ickleton-street; a little off the right branch of which, also on its right, we find Letcombe Castle, an ancient entrenchment situated on a commanding position on the Downs. Its form is irregular, but approaches the circular; it has a double vallum, and altogether encloses an area of about twenty-six acres. The entrenchments and ditches alone contain eight and a half acres. There was an entrance to the camp on the west side. It is supposed to have been originally a British work, and to have been afterwards used by the Romans. LETCOMBE BASSET, a short distance from the castle, derives its latter name from the Basset family, who possessed the manor in the 13th century. Here, in the house of his friend, Mr. Gery, the rector, Dean Swift resided for some time after his unsuccessful endeavour to reconcile the Lords Oxford and Bolingbroke in June, 1714, and wrote his pamphlet, "Free Thoughts on the present state of Affairs," which owing to the death of the Queen (Anne), just at the time, was not published till 1741.

LETCOMBE REGIS is on a road which branches out from that we are pursuing, at the Red House, and is continued toward Faringdon. In direct distance it is only about a mile and a half S.W. of Wantage. It derives its name from the circumstance of its having anciently belonged to the crown as a part of the

royal demesnes. Henry VI., pursuant to the will of his father, gave the manor to the abbot and convent of Westminster. A large portion of the parish was also given by one of the kingly owners to the monastery of Clugny in Burgundy. The manor house, of which remains were existing in the last century, appears to have been an edifice of some importance. It was moated, and had over the gateway a large apartment called the guard-room. Tradition assigns the erection of the building to King John. The Berks canal, and a branch of the Ock pass through Letcombe. There is a seat here called Benhams.

Returning to the Red House, and continuing our route toward Hungerford, we pass on the left FARNBOROUGH, which lies about two miles distant from the road, in the hundred of Compton. GREAT or NORTH FAWLEY is about three quarters of a mile from the road on the right. The manor belonged from an early period to the nuns of Ambresbury. Woolly Park on the left, is in the parish of Chaddleworth. There was here formerly a free chapel. The house, built in 1690, was much altered in 1799. BRIGHT WALTHAM, in the hundred of Faircross, is still farther from the road, nearly in the same direction. It is very commonly called Brikleton. The manor belonged to the abbey of Battle in Sussex. In the church is an ancient font with circular interlaced arches.

CHADDLEWORTH is about a mile from the road on the same side, about seven miles from Wantage. The manor was given by William the Conqueror to

Robert D'Oyley : it afterwards belonged to the mother of Edward I., who bought it for the support of her daughter Eleanor of Brittany, then a nun of Ambresbury ; the reversion was settled on the princess and convent. The singular custom by which a widow recovered her life-interest in her husband's estates, when forfeited by incontinency, as described in our notice of Enborne, also prevailed here. The church presents some Saxon remains.

About a mile and a half from Chaddleworth is a place called ELLENSFORD-MERE, in which is a farm-house in a retired spot among woods. This is the site of the monastery of Poghly (itself occupying the site of an ancient hermitage) built by Ralph de Chaddleworth in 1160. The canons were of the Augustin

order. The monastery was suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey among the other smaller monasteries dissolved in 1532, when its revenues were about 71*l.* per annum.

The two Sheffords we noticed in the route from Newbury to Lambourn (chap. vii.). Here we cross the river Lambourn, between which and Hungerford we find Newtown, a large tithing of Hungerford, and Eddington House in the hamlet of Eddington, which it is alleged is the ancient Ethandane, where King Alfred gained a decisive victory over the Danes, though Eddington near Westbury in Wilts is supposed by others to be the Ethendane of the Saxon Chronicle.

Hungerford, rather more than thirty miles from Oxford, is noticed in the last chapter.

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THE

JOURNEY-BOOK OF ENGLAND.

DERBYSHIRE.

WITH

TWENTY-THREE ENGRAVINGS ON WOOD, AND AN ILLUMINATED
MAP OF THE COUNTY.

Young Adair's Top
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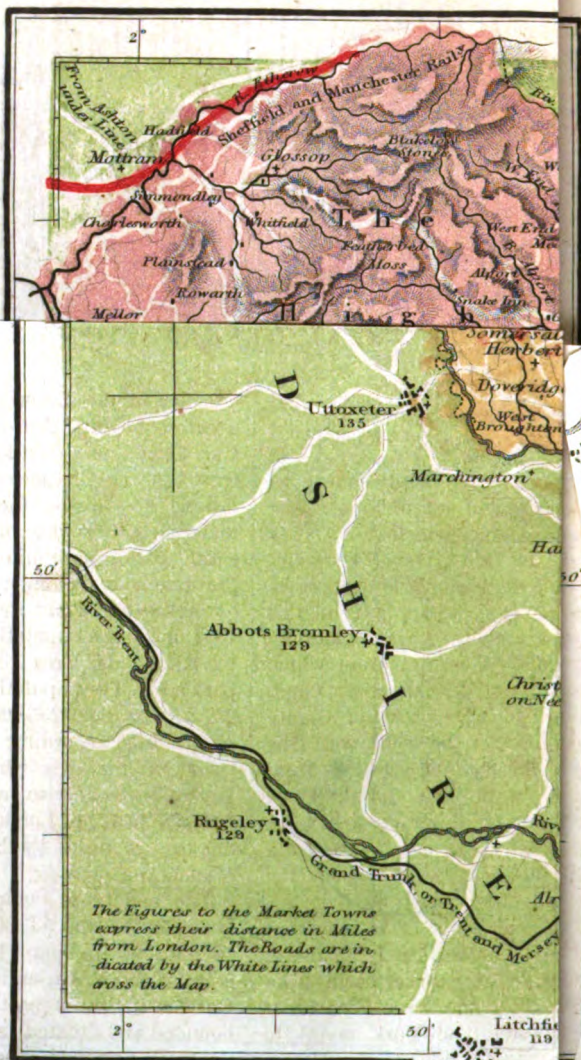
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The parts of the County coloured Red & Brown indicate the North & South Parliamentary Divisions

THE JOURNEY-BOOK OF DERBYSHIRE.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

DERBYSHIRE, a midland county of England, bounded on the north-east by Yorkshire, from which it is partly separated by the rivers Derwent, Rother, and Sheaf; on the north-west by Cheshire, from which it is in this quarter separated by the river Etherow; on the west by Cheshire, from which it is here separated by the river Goyt, and Staffordshire, which latter county bounds it also on the south-west (the Dove separates Staffordshire from Derbyshire on the west, and the Dove and the Trent on the south-west); on the south-east by Leicestershire, from which it is partly separated by the Trent; and on the east by Nottinghamshire, from which it is separated by the Erewash. Its form is irregular; the greatest length is from north (from the point where the three counties of Derby, Chester, and York meet) to south (near Lullington on the Mease,

a feeder of the Trent) 56 miles; the greatest breadth is from east (Holm Car Farm, near Worksop, Notts) to west (near Chapel-en-le-Frith) 34 miles. The area of the county is estimated at 1010 square miles by Arrow-smith, 1028 square miles according to the statement subjoined to the *Abstract of the Answers and Returns* made in 1831 under the Population Act, or 1036 by taking the area of the different parishes. The population in 1831 was 237,170, or about 235, 231, or 229 to a square mile, according to the computation of the area which we adopt. Derby, the county town, is 114 or 115 miles N.N.W. of London in a straight line, or 126 miles by the London and Manchester road.

The county is comprehended between $52^{\circ} 41'$ and $53^{\circ} 30'$ N. lat. and $1^{\circ} 10'$ and $2^{\circ} 4'$ W. long.; the county town is in $52^{\circ} 55'$ N. lat. and $1^{\circ} 29'$ W. long. Besides the main part of the county bounded and situated as above, there is a small detached portion near the

southern extremity, inclosed between the counties of Warwick, Leicester, and Stafford. It contains the villages

and parishes of Measham, Stretton-in-the-Fields, and Wilsley, and the village and chapelry of Chilcote.*

PHYSICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

SURFACE.

The southern and south-eastern parts of Derbyshire may be considered as on the whole flat, yet they have an easy ascent towards the north-western portion, which comprehends one of the most elevated and rugged districts in England. This part (which is commonly known by the name of the Peak) is occupied by a part of that range of high lands, which some geographers have designated the Penine chain, which separates the waters which flow into the sea on the eastern side of the island from those on the west side. This chain of mountains enters the county at or near its northern extremity, and the principal ridge runs in an irregular line S.S.W. till it enters Staffordshire a few miles S.W. of Buxton. Along this ridge are the following heights: Dean Head Stones, 539 feet high; Blakelow Stones, which Farey considers to be the highest point of the ridge and of the county generally; Kinder-scout, which Farey considers to be inferior in height only to Blakelow Stones, and which is stated, we presume, in round numbers, to be 1800 feet high (*Phys. and Pol. Geog. of the Brit. Isles*, in *Lib. of Usef. Kn.*); and the northern and middle peaks of Axe Edge Hill, the southern peak being in

Staffordshire. The northern or great summit of Axe Edge Hill has been stated to be 1875 feet above the level of the sea (Farey), but later observations have reduced it to 1751 feet; Lord's Seat, to the east of the principal ridge of the Penine chain, is 1751 feet high. This ridge divides the basin of the Mersey from that of the Trent, one of that large system of rivers which has the Humber for its æstuary. From this, the principal ridge of the chain, lateral ridges proceed, which bound the subordinate basins of the various affluents of the greater rivers mentioned already. One of these lateral ridges, branching from the principal ridge near Axe Edge Hill and running south-east, separates the basin of the Derwent from that of the Dove. The length of this ridge, following its windings, is estimated at 46 miles; but the length of a direct line between its extremities is not estimated at more than 35½ miles. The ridge, which

* We give the above dimensions and the latitude and longitude of the extreme points from Arrow-smith's map. The length and breadth, as given in Farey's *Agricultural Survey* (where the detached portion of the county is included), are nearly the same as we have given; but the county is said to be comprehended between 52° 38' and 53° 27' N. lat., and between 1° 12' and 2° 34' W. long.

forms the eastern boundary of the basin of the Derwent, and which extends in a winding course about 67 miles, does not wholly belong to Derbyshire. It branches off from the Penine chain, in Yorkshire, and approaching the border of that county towards Derbyshire, runs along the boundary, then enters Derbyshire, and proceeds in a south-eastern direction across the east moors of the county into Nottinghamshire. The first part of this ridge separates the waters of the Derwent from those of the Don, the part nearest to Nottinghamshire from those of the Rother, a feeder of the Don. In this ridge is the hill called Ox Stones, 1377 feet high, between Sheffield (Yorkshire) and Hathersage. Alport or Opit Hill, south-east of Wirksworth, is 980 feet high. It is said that from this eminence the Wrekin hill, near Shrewsbury, which is 50 miles distant, may be seen.

The Derbyshire highlands are intersected by narrow valleys or dales abounding with the most striking and picturesque scenery. We subjoin the following observations from Rhodes's *Peak Scenery* (8vo. edit., Lond., 1824). 'A more marked and obvious contrast in form and feature is scarcely to be met with in any part of the kingdom than the county of Derby presents. The more southern districts, though richly cultivated, are generally flat and monotonous in outline; to the picturesque traveller they are therefore comparatively of but little value: approaching its northern boundary it wears a more dignified aspect: here the hills,

gradually assuming a wilder, a bolder, and a more majestic appearance, swell into mountains which, extending to the most elevated parts of the Peak, mingle their summits with the thin white clouds that often float around them. Such are the appearances that often occur amongst the mountains of Derbyshire. Descending into the dales, especially those through which the Derwent, the Dove, and the Wye meander, the eye is enchanted with brilliant streams, well-cultivated meadows, luxuriant foliage, steep heathy hills, and craggy rocks, which administer to the delight of the traveller, and alternately soothe or elevate his mind as he moves along.'

The broadest and the deepest valleys are in the higher parts of the Peak. The picturesque beauty of the valleys is increased by the frequently precipitous character of the hills or rocks which bound them. The faces of these rocks rise up almost perpendicularly from the sides of the valleys, as may be observed near Castleton in the centre of the Peak, and near Stoney Middleton in the valley of the Derwent, where the Castle Rock rises to a vast height, and obtains its name from the singular and turret-like form which its craggy projections and points assume. Matlock High Tor, and other rocks in Matlock Dale, and the rocks which skirt some parts of the valley of the Dove, are of this precipitous character. In the smaller and narrower dales the projections of one side have corresponding recesses on the other,

HYDROGRAPHY.

The rivers of Derbyshire rise, for the most part, in the north-western and more elevated part of the county, and have a course toward the south or south-east. This is the case with the Derwent and its principal affluent the Wye, with the Dove, which is the boundary river of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and those of its tributaries which belong to the latter county. In the eastern part of the county about Chesterfield, which is separated from the other parts by the ridge of high land which bounds on the east side the valley of the Derwent, the direction of the stream that drains it (the Rother) is north-east. In the extreme north-west there are a few streams that flow westward into the Etherow or Goyt, and so into the Mersey.

The *Derwent* rises in a place called 'the Trough,' on the border of Yorkshire and Derbyshire, where the principal ridge of the Penine chain enters the latter county, and has a S.S.E. course. Four or five miles from its source it receives a stream (the West-end river) of about the same length as itself, and about 9 or 10 miles from its source it is joined by the Ashop river, into which the Alport brook flows; and three miles lower down it receives the Noe or Now, from Hope Dale: all these tributaries join it on the west or right bank. From the junction of the Now the Derwent flows on through Chatsworth Park, 12 or 13 miles, until it meets the Wye at Great Rowsley, not receiving in the

way any accessions worth notice, except the brooks Burbadge and Barbrook, which fall into it on the left bank. The *Wye* rises near the Axe Edge Hill in the principal ridge of the Penine chain, and flows to the south-east through Miller's Dale and Monsal Dale and past the town of Bakewell into the Derwent: its whole course is more than 20 miles. From the junction of the Wye the Derwent flows on in the same direction (S.S.E.) as hitherto to Derby, and receives in its way the river Amber, about 14 miles long, which joins it on the left bank above Belper, and the Ecclesburn from Wirksworth, about 10 miles long, which joins it on the right bank. From the junction of the Wye to Derby is about 25 miles. Below Derby the river runs south-east with a sinuous course of about 12 miles into the Trent: this part of the river was made navigable some years since, but the navigation of it has been superseded by the cutting of the Derby Canal. Its whole course is about 60 to 65 miles. 'In the space of 40 miles, which includes the whole course of this river from the highest and wildest parts of the Peak to the town of Derby, scenery more richly diversified with beauty can hardly anywhere be found. Generally its banks are luxuriantly wooded: the oak, the elm, the alder, and the ash, flourish abundantly along its course; beneath the shade of whose united branches the Derwent is sometimes secluded from the eye of the traveller and becomes a companion for the ear alone; then, suddenly emerging

into day, it spreads through a more open valley, or winding round some huge mountain or rocky precipice reflects their dark sides as it glides beneath. Sometimes this ever-varying and ever-pleasing stream precipitates its foaming waters over the rugged projections and rocky fragments that interrupt its way: again the ruffled waves subside and the current steals smoothly and gently through the vale, clear and almost imperceptible in motion.' (Rhodes's *Peak Scenery*.) The course of the Wye is generally through narrow dells with precipitous sides: it receives a small tributary, the Lathkill, just before it falls into the Derwent. The current of the Derwent is rapid, and its waters are said to be of a higher temperature than ordinary; in the summer season it is said the thermometer will stand in them at 66° Fahrenheit, and in severe weather it has been observed that the Derwent has not been frozen so early as the Trent, and has become open nearly a month earlier. (Pilkington's *Derbyshire*.)

The *Dove* rises on the border of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, in the slope of the Axe Edge Hill, and is, throughout its course, the boundary between the counties. Its course is S.S.E., with little variation for about 20 miles, to Hanging Bridge by Ashbourn, just above and below which bridge it receives its first two Derbyshire tributaries of any consequence, viz., a stream which comes from the village of Parwick, about 9 miles long, and the Schoo, which rises near Wirks-

worth, and flows by Ashbourn into the Dove, after a course of about 10 miles. The Dove, in the upper part of its course, 'is one of the most beautiful streams that ever gave a charm to landscape: and while passing through the first and least picturesque division of the Dale (Dove Dale), the ear is soothed by its murmurings, and the eye delighted with the brilliancy of its waters—in some places it flows smoothly and solemnly along, but never slowly; in others its motion is rapid, impetuous, and even turbulent. The ash, the hazel, the slender osier, and the graceful birch, hung with honeysuckles and wild roses, dip their pensile branches in the stream and break its surface into beauteous ripples. Huge fragments of stone, toppled from the rocks above, and partly covered with moss and plants that haunt and love the water, divide the stream into many currents; round these it bubbles in limpid rills that circle into innumerable eddies, which by their activity give life and motion to a numerous variety of aquatic plants and flowers that grow in the bed of the river: these wave their slender stems under the surface of the water, which, flowing over them like the transparent varnish of a picture, brings forth the most vivid colouring. Occasionally large stones are thrown across the stream, and interrupt its progress: over and amongst these it rushes rapidly into the pool below, forming in its frequent falls a series of fairy cascades, about which it foams and sparkles with a beauty and bril-

liancy peculiar to this lively and romantic river.' (Rhodes's *Peak Scenery*.) Below its junction with the Schoo, the Dove flows south-west for about 3 or 4 miles; then south for about 7 more, receiving by the way the Churnet, its largest Staffordshire tributary; it then flows in a winding course E.S.E. for 12 or 14 miles, and falls into the Trent just below Burton, receiving several streams, the longest of which rises near Atlow, between Ashbourn and Belper, and has a course of above 15 miles. The whole course of the Dove may be estimated at from 40 to 45 miles. The waters of this river have a clear blue tint, deepening through various shades to a dark purple. It frequently overflows its banks in the spring; and the fertilizing effect of these floods has given rise to the distich—

'In April, Dove's flood
Is worth a king's good.'

Sometimes, however, the waters rise with such rapidity and violence as to be very destructive.

The *Erewash* rises in Nottinghamshire, near the village of Kirkby, and flowing W.S.W. for about 3 miles reaches the border of Derbyshire, and then flows, first S.W. and then S. by E., along the boundary of the two counties into the Trent. Its whole course is about 20 miles.

The *Mease* rises in Leicestershire, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and flows first S.S.W., then W., and then N.N.W., into the Trent. Its course, which is about 18 or 20 miles, is for a

short distance, in the detached portion of Derbyshire, partly on the border of the county, and partly beyond the border, in the counties of Leicester and Stafford.

These four rivers fall into the Trent, which crosses Derbyshire in a direction nearly north-east. It touches the border 5 or 6 miles north-east of Lichfield, just at the point where the Mease falls into it, and flows about 10 miles N.N.W. along the border of Derbyshire and Staffordshire, past Burton-upon-Trent, in Staffordshire, until its junction with the Dove, after which it quits the border, and runs nearly due east through Derbyshire for about 11 miles to the border of Leicestershire. It then turns E.N.E. and runs for about 10 miles along the border separating Derbyshire from Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire, till its junction with the Erewash, after which it quits Derbyshire altogether. The Derwent falls into it about 5 miles above the junction of the Erewash. About 31 miles of the course of the Trent are thus upon or within the Derbyshire border. It is calculated (Farey, *Agricultural Survey of Derbyshire*) that it receives the drainage of ten-thirteenthths of the county, exclusive of the streams in the eastern part which flow into the Idle, one of the tributaries which joins the Trent in the lower part of its course. The Trent is navigable from Burton-upon-Trent, but in 1805 the navigation was given up by agreement with the proprietors of the Trent and Mersey Canal, which runs by its side, and the

navigation of the river now commences just at the junction of the Derwent.

The *Goyt* rises near Axe Edge, and flows N.N.W. along the border of Derbyshire and Cheshire, about 14 miles, till its junction with the Etherow, which has a south-west course of about 15 or 16 miles chiefly on the border of the same two counties. The springs of the Etherow are in Yorkshire and Cheshire. The united stream of these two rivers flows into the Mersey at Stockport. They receive many small streams from the adjacent part (the High Peak) of Derbyshire.

The *Rother* rises in the East Moor, a mile or two east of Chatsworth Park, and flows eastward about 8 miles to Chesterfield, where it turns to the north-east and flows into Yorkshire. About 22 or 23 miles of its course belong to Derbyshire. It joins the Don at Rotherham in Yorkshire. The *Dawley* (10 miles long) is its only Derbyshire tributary that requires notice. This rises on the Nottinghamshire border and flows north past Bolsover.

The *Sheaf*, which joins the Don at Sheffield, the *Wallin*, the *Poulter*, and the *Ryton*, whose waters flow directly or ultimately into the Idle, rise in Derbyshire.

GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY.

That part of Derbyshire which lies south of a line drawn through Ashbourn, Duffield, and Sandiacre, is almost entirely occupied by the red marl

or new red sandstone, a formation which overspreads so large a portion of the midland counties. There are indeed a few spots in which the magnesian limestone, which ordinarily underlies it, rises to the surface; and just on the Leicestershire border, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch, the coal-measures emerge from beneath it, and form one or two small detached coal-fields. In many parts, and especially along the valleys of the lower Derwent and the Trent, the red marl is covered by beds of gravel, and upon the gravel alluvial flats of loam or sandy loam, of from one to several feet in thickness, and without stones, are occasionally found. The strata of the red marl present considerable variety: among them are some micaceous gritstone beds, producing a good freestone; other strata are not concreted, but appear as sand, red, white, and yellow; others are more clayey, and from them bricks and tiles are made. The strata of the red marl formation are generally horizontal or nearly so. Several deposits of gypsum are found in this formation, and are quarried in several places, as at Darley Abbey, in the tongue of land formed by the Derwent and the Trent, and in the southern extremity of the county. That gypsum which is quite white, or only faintly streaked with red, is used by the potters of Staffordshire (as plaster of Paris) for their moulds; some fine blocks are selected for the turners of alabaster ornaments, and the inferior sort is used by plasterers for ordinary purposes, or

for making the plaster floors often seen in this county. Some of the best land in or near Derbyshire lies on the red marl; in general, however, it is inclined to be too tenacious and cold. This formation also occupies a very small portion of the county at its eastern extremity.

The newer magnesian or conglomerate limestone, which crops from under the red marl of Nottinghamshire, and skirts it on its western border, extends into the eastern part of Derbyshire, where it occupies the part east of a line drawn north and south through Bolsover. The thickness of this formation is probably 300 feet. The general colour is yellow, of various shades, from a bright gamboge to a light straw colour or white. Many of the beds have a granular texture, and cannot be calcined; they have generally passed with the inhabitants for gritstone rather than limestone. This limestone is quarried for building, also for flooring and staircases. Towards the bottom of the series are several beds of compact blue limestone, embedded in blue clay, and abounding with shells. This blue limestone yields excellent lime; it is quarried at Bolsover, where also pipe clay is obtained: the pipe clay separates the limestone beds. The strata of the magnesian limestone form a better subsoil for arable than for grass land.

The coal-measures underlie the magnesian limestone, and crop out from beneath it on the west. These coal-measures form part of that important

coal-field which occupies a considerable part of the west riding of Yorkshire, and extends into Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, being bounded on the east by the magnesian limestone, and on the south by the red marl. The strata range from north to south, and dip to the east. The Derbyshire portion of this coal-field is east of a line drawn from between Hathersage and Sheffield to Little Eaton, near Derby. There are twenty gritstone-beds, some of them of great thickness, and numerous strata of slate-clay, as shale, bind, and clunch: some of the shale-beds contain rounded or ovate masses, and even thin strata of argillaceous ironstone, with impressions of mussel shells, and coaly impressions of vegetables. A hard argillaceous rock called crowstone forms in some places the floor of the coal-beds. The number or order of the coal-seams is probably about thirty, varying in thickness from six inches to eleven feet: their aggregate thickness is about eighty feet: these dimensions can only be considered as approximate. Every variety of coal seems to be found in this field, hard stone coal, cannel, peacock, and caking coal. The coal-pits in Derbyshire are dispersed over the coal-field, and are very numerous, especially about Chesterfield and Alfreton, and in the district south and west of the Cromford and Erewash canals. There are coal-pits also in the small detached coal-fields on the Leicestershire border, noticed in speaking of the red marl, and coal is obtained be-

tween Ashbourn and Derby apparently by working through the red marl to the coal-measures which lie underneath them. The beds which lie between the seams of coal are worked for various purposes. The workings of the ironstone are generally begun at the surface, and pursued until they become dangerous from the loose nature of the stratum in which they lie: that ironstone which is marked with impressions of mussel-shells (called the mussel band) is worked as an ornamental marble. From the gritstone-beds are quarried grindstones for cutlers: the binds, where they are hard and black, are used as black chalk; others, when decomposed, make good brick earth: the clunch is sometimes of that kind which is used for fire-bricks: where it crops out to the surface it becomes soft clay. Potters' clay, of various colours and qualities, occur in this coal-field.

Millstone-grit and shale form a series of strata, having an aggregate thickness of about 870 feet; the millstone-grit, 360 feet thick, forming the upper part, and the shale and its associated rocks, 510 feet, the lower part of the formation. The millstone-grit ranges on three sides (viz., the east, north, and west) of the carboniferous limestone, which we shall have presently to notice as occupying the central part of the county north of Ashbourn and Duffield: it occupies a tract between Duffield, Belper, and Wirksworth, on the west side of the Derwent, and forms the heights that bound the valley of

that river on the east side up to its source. It occupies also the northern and western borders of the High Peak, and extends southward to Buxton, near which it passes into Staffordshire. The hills formed by it usually present a bold escarpment, crowned by rude piles of crags, exhibiting some of the wildest rock scenery of the district. The shale occupies a lower district between this and the carboniferous limestone, but in this lower tract are occasional insulated mountains, crowned with a cap of millstone-grit. Kinder Scout is one of these. The shale contains some alternating beds of fine-grained siliceous grit and nodules of ironstone; and it has some subjacent and apparently local beds of shale limestone, which afford a beautiful black marble.

Carboniferous or mountain limestone occupies the tract bounded on the south by the red marl, and on all other sides by the millstone-grit and shale just described. This limestone district is entirely comprehended in Derbyshire, except on the north-east, where it just passes over the Yorkshire boundary, and the south-west, where it enters Staffordshire. There are one or two places in the southern part of the county where the limestone crops out. On the eastern side of the county the strata dip under the shale; but on the western side, by a great fault, the lowest bed of the limestone is elevated and brought into contact on the same level with the shale. The limestone is divided into four beds

by three intervening beds of toadstone. The respective thickness of these limestone-beds (reckoning from the uppermost) is as follows:—first bed, 150 feet; second bed, 150 feet; third bed, 210 feet; fourth bed, at least 250 feet; aggregate at least 760, but in fact the thickness of the lower bed is not ascertained: it is only known that it extends 250 feet. In each bed of this limestone thin beds of clay are found, with embedded masses of toadstone, and various organic remains. The lowest bed, which is the most esteemed by the lime-burners, has very few dark-coloured strata; but in the three upper beds these are more common, and the second bed contains some very fine black strata, which are quarried as black marble. The upper bed is also quarried as marble, and contains white chert or china-stone, which is extensively used in the Staffordshire potteries. The beautiful fluor spar called 'Blue John,' from which vases and other ornaments are made, is found in a mountain of limestone.

The outcrop of the carboniferous limestone forms the lead district of Derbyshire. Numerous veins have been worked in it, chiefly for lead; but ores of zinc, iron, manganese, and copper also occur. Lead ore is found occasionally in the toadstone which intervenes between the limestone-beds, but commonly the veins are cut off by the toadstone-beds. The veins which contain lead have generally a direction east and west; some of them approach the perpendicular

(rake veins); others are nearly horizontal (pipe veins), and are rather beds of spar and ore, lying between the strata of limestone, and in most cases connected with the surface by a rake vein.

The limestone strata of Derbyshire are subject to very remarkable arrangements or faults. They are characterized also by numerous caverns, and by the frequent engulfment of the streams by subterraneous courses termed 'swallow holes.' The caverns appear to have been excavated wholly or chiefly by the agency of water.

The three toadstone-beds have an average thickness of 60 feet for the upper, and 75 feet for each of the lower, giving an aggregate of 210 feet; in parts, however, the thickness of the three amounts to above 250 feet. There are several varieties of the toadstone, which sometimes passes into 'ordinary basalt': among the substances inclosed are the quartz crystals locally termed Derbyshire diamonds.

Of the limestone caverns, the most remarkable is that now generally known as Peak's Hole, or the Devil's Cave, near Castleton. The mineral springs of Derbyshire are numerous and important. The most celebrated warm springs are those at Buxton and Matlock. There are warm springs at Stony Middleton, where it is supposed that the Romans established a bath. The temperature of the Middleton waters is 2° higher than that of the warmest springs at Matlock. The most celebrated of the sulphureous

waters is at Kedleston Park, three miles north-west of Derby. They are valued for their antiscorbutic qualities. There are several chalybeate springs.

An account of the ebbing and flowing well on the road from Buxton to Castleton is given in Chapter IX.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY.

On the eastern side of the county, running from south to north, the yellow magnesian limestone prevails, and the soil is dry and favourable for cattle, sheep, and turnips: the towns of Mansfield and Worksop are situated on this formation, which is however chiefly confined within the Nottinghamshire border. Parallel to it is the Derbyshire coal-field, the upper surface of which is generally a cold clay devoted to pasture, and in favourable situations to corn: the towns of Alfreton and Chesterfield are situated in this part of the county. The coal formation is bounded on the west by a narrow belt constituting the woodland district of the county and favourable to the growth of timber, and adjoining it we find the millstone-grit and shale consisting of uninclosed moorland, on which only a few sheep are depastured. This wild and barren district is bordered by the mountain limestone, which affords tolerable pasturage; and on the western borders of the county there is the grit-stone of the Staffordshire moorlands. These districts are parallel to each other, and run north of a line drawn from Nottingham to near Ashbourn. South of this line the soil is

marl and gravel, the meadows are rich, and here are the best dairy farms and arable lands in the county.

On the high hills and moors of Derbyshire the cultivation is not extended as it might be; and there are great tracts of rough pasture of little value in their present state, which, with a moderate outlay, might be improved or converted into arable land, as has been done in similar situations in Scotland. In the valleys, or on the less abrupt hills, a very fertile red marly loam is frequently met with, which is productive of every kind of grain without any extraordinary tillage. Of this kind are the lands about Barton, Blount, and Ash, and in several places in the southern and eastern part of the county.

The soil on the surface naturally partakes of the nature of the rocks which are found immediately below it; and where any particular stratum rises to the surface, or crops out, as it is called, the soil is chiefly made up of the same earthy substances, which have been more or less decomposed by the action of the air and mixed with vegetable matter. An account of the different soils is given in the Agricultural Report of the county, by

Farey, of which the following table forms an epitome, distinguishing the strata from which they are formed, and the number of acres in extent.

Gravelly soils	77,000 acres.
Red marl soil	81,000
Yellow limestone soil . .	21,580
Coal-measure, upper part .	30,000
lower part .	60,000
Gritstone and shale soils .	160,500
Mineral limestone and toad- stone soils }	51,500
Fourth limestone soil. . .	40,500

Total surface. . . . 522,080 acres.

Most of these soils may be ranked among the clays and loams of various degrees of fertility, there being but a very small proportion of sandy soils in Derbyshire. Where these occur, they are mostly alluvial, apparently washed out of the loam and brought together by currents, or the decomposition of the grit and micaceous sandstone in the grit or limestone shale.

The climate of Derbyshire varies according to the situation and height of the land above the level of the sea. The quantity of rain that falls in the mountainous parts is much greater than that in the low country: at Chatsworth, for instance, the annual fall of rain is about 28·411, and at Derby 24·77 inches. In the valleys it differs little from the surrounding counties. The time of harvest is rather late in exposed situations, and is frequently much protracted by abundant rains in the month of October; it is therefore of great importance to sow as early as the sea-

son will permit, so as to have the corn ripe in time to gather it in before the autumnal rains.

The manner in which the soil is cultivated varies as much as its nature. Rich proprietors who have experienced bailiffs adopt all the new improvements, and their farms are well managed. The land is in general extremely wet, and, except in the southern parts of the county, very little pains is taken to remedy this inconvenience. Neither the drill nor the threshing machine are much used: there is, we believe, only one steam threshing machine in the county. There are also a few farmers who have some capital and manage their land well; but the majority are small farmers, who follow the routine of their forefathers, and have not the means, if they had the inclination, to make permanent improvements. A great many arms might be doubled in value by judicious draining, and lands made to produce turnips which now are thought too heavy and wet for this useful root. The pastures also might, in many places, be greatly improved by under-draining, and rendered much better adapted to feed sheep. A common obstacle to improvement is the want of leases; for although tenants are seldom removed if they pay their rents, and it is not unusual for a tenant from year to year, when he dies, to give possession of the farm to his widow or one of his children by a testamentary bequest, which is generally respected by the landlord, the rent may be raised,

if the estate comes into other hands, and the money laid out on improvements by the tenant may be the cause of this rise. Tenants from year to year are therefore satisfied with a bare livelihood, and have no motive to improve their farms. Many farms are so small that they are scarcely superior to cottage tenures, and the occupiers have other means of gaining a livelihood besides their land. In the neighbourhood of Derby and other manufacturing towns, as also near the most productive mines, some small portions of land are neatly cultivated, in a great measure by the spade, and are consequently very productive. They are let at higher rents than the quality of the soil would otherwise warrant. In the hundreds of High Peak and Scarsdale, and the wapentake of Wirksworth, there are to be found the greatest proportion of small landowners and occupiers: in the High Peak hundred there are 625 occupiers employing labourers, while the number of occupiers who do not hire labour is 1364.

The course of cultivation on the best loams is generally that which begins with a summer fallow manured with lime for wheat, and succeeded by spring corn with or without clover or grass seeds. Some farmers have adopted the improved convertible system, and find the superiority of it in point of profit, uniting the advantages of a dairy with those of an arable farm. Spring wheat has been introduced instead of barley on the best soils, and the land is laid down with grass seeds

in the first crop after the fallow, or the turnips, where these are introduced.

The wheat produced on the red land is good and heavy. On the poorer soils oats and barley are more certain and profitable crops. When the wheat has failed during the winter, and looks poor and thin in spring, it used to be a common practice to sow barley amongst it: the mixed produce was called *blend*, and ground to a coarse meal, of which bread was made for the labourers. Spring wheat has been found a better substitute, and blend is now seldom met with. The use of haver cake made of oatmeal is becoming much less common, and wheaten bread will soon be the staple article of diet.

Potatoes are raised in considerable quantities, both in garden plots and in the fields, where they are planted in rows and moulded up with the plough. The produce on good loams well manured, especially on land ploughed up from grass, is very great. Six hundred bushels per acre is not thought a very extraordinary crop in very superior soils. They are given to cattle, as well as used for human food.

A large proportion of the lands is in permanent pastures, of which some are very rich. To the north of the inclosed land, a traveller may proceed for miles without seeing an acre of arable land, there being nothing but a continuation of pasture both upon the hills and in the valleys. In this district scarcely any of the farms have more than three or four acres of arable

land attached to them, and many have none whatever. Derbyshire cheese is noted as of a good quality, and the best is often sold for Cheshire or Gloucester when made of the shape and colour of these cheeses. The common Derbyshire cheese is not generally coloured. It resembles some kinds of Dutch cheeses, and keeps well.

There are some very highly productive meadows along the course of the rivers in this county, but an improved system of embankment and irrigation is still wanting in many favourable situations. The meadows along the Dove and other rivers are from their situation very subject to sudden floods, which endanger the safety of the cattle grazing in them. To obviate this, mounds of earth have been raised in many places, to which the cattle may fly for refuge; but a judicious embankment would be much more useful, by keeping the waters in proper channels, and would allow the admission of the water by flood-gates, when it is advantageous to the land.

When the upland pastures are mown for hay, they are also called meadows. Some of these are very rich, and will fatten the heaviest oxen; but the generality of the hilly pastures are below the medium quality of pastures in England. They might be much improved by draining and weeding, which are seldom attended to.

There are many woods and coppices scattered through the county. There being no great demand for fire-wood a country abounding with coal, the

coppices are allowed to grow for twenty or twenty-five years before they are cut, in order that the poles may acquire a considerable size, and be proper for supporting the roofs and sides of excavations in mines and coal-pits, or fit to make ladders of. A good coppice of twenty-five years' growth may be worth from 25*l.* to 50*l.* per acre to cut for the above purposes, leaving a sufficient number of trees and poles at each cutting to keep up the timber growing, which, when felled, will be worth as much as the underwood. Many young plantations have been made of late years, and are in a thriving state.

The horned cattle of Derbyshire have no peculiar character. The various improved breeds are met with in the richer pastures, and hardier animals on the mountains. A cross between the long-horned or Staffordshire breed and the short-horned or Durham breed is increasing. The same may be said of the sheep. The sheep on the hills are similar to those found on the Cheviot Hills; in the valleys the Leicester and South Down breeds, and various crosses, are generally preferred by the best farmers: but the quantity fattened is not so great as would be the case were the land better adapted for turnips.

The Derbyshire breed of horses is good, and many are bred in this county which are fitted for the carriage and the saddle, as well as for the farm, and form an important article in the profits of some of the larger farms.

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES.

Before the Roman conquest, Derbyshire appears to have been included in the territory of the Coritani, who, with the Cornavii, occupied the whole of the midland district from the Lincolnshire coast to the upper part of the Severn and the Dee. Upon the conquest of South Britain by the Romans, and its division into provinces, Derbyshire was included in the province of Flavia Cæsariensis, not (as Pilkington, and after him, Messrs. Lysons state) of Britannia Prima.

The barren moors of this county abound in masses of gritstone, and single stones of vast size appearing above the surface: many tors (as Mock Beggar Hall, on Stanton Moor, between Winster and Bakewell; Robin Hood's Mark, on Ashover Common, &c.) and rocking stones have been found, and many rock basins; but all these, to which it was once common to ascribe a druidical origin, seem referable, like the granite tors of Cornwall and Devonshire, rather to natural causes. There are however circles of stones, some upright stones, and tumuli or barrows of earth and stones (called in Derbyshire 'lows'), and some rude military works which appear to be memorials of the early inhabitants. The most remarkable of these monuments is the stone circle of Arbelows, or Arbor-low, two or three miles north-west of the town of Winster.

The ancient British road, the Ryk-

neld Street, and the Roman road, which usually coincided with it, cross this county in its whole extent from south-west to north-east, from the borders of Staffordshire to those of Yorkshire. The Rykneld Street enters Derbyshire where Monk's-bridge, over the Dove, now stands, and runs north-east in the direction of Little Chester, supposed to be the Roman station Derventio; the Rykneld Street is supposed to have passed the Derwent by a ford, perhaps at the town of Derby, the Roman road by a bridge a little higher up the river. The two roads meet again near Derventio, and they may be traced in a direction nearly N.N.E towards Chesterfield.

Chesterfield has been supposed to be a Roman station, the Lutudarium of Ravennas; and the first part of the name of the town (Chester—which, with its kindred forms, cester and caster, usually indicates the site of a Roman station) and the discovery of Roman coins there give probability to the supposition. The name of Lutudarium in an abridged form (LVT and LVTVN) is stamped on three Roman pigs of lead (now in the British Museum) which have been found at different times near Matlock. (*Library of Entertaining Knowledge; Townley Gallery*, vol. ii. p. 288.)

A second Roman road has been traced from Brough in Hope Dale to Buxton, both of which are ascertained

to have been Roman stations. At Brough three sides of the station, which was an oblong 310-feet by 270, are still perfect; and the foundations of a temple and another large building, with other antiquities, have been discovered. At Buxton several Roman baths have been discovered, and three of their roads at least, the one mentioned above, one from Derventio, and a third from Mancunium (Manchester), meet here,—a sufficient indication of the site of a station. It is conjectured that it was the *Aquæ* mentioned by *Ravennas*. Another Roman road, locally designated Long Lane, runs through the county from the river Dove at or near Rocester, which from its name was probably a station, to Derventio, and appears to have continued in the same line from thence into Nottinghamshire. Another Roman road, locally designated the Doctor's Gate, runs from the station of Melandra Castle, in Glossop parish, on the border of Cheshire, to Brough. There are some traces of other roads.

Derventio, now Little Chester, near Derby, appears to have been the most considerable Roman station in the county. The stations at Buxton, Brough in Hope Dale, and Melandra Castle in Glossop, have been mentioned. The last is on a moderate elevation at the meeting of two mountain streams. It has been conjectured, but on uncertain grounds, that there were Roman stations at Parwick, between Buxton and Ashbourn, and at Pentrich, on the Rykneld Street, be-

tween Derventio and the modern Chesterfield: there are camps of the Roman form at both these places. The two camps, one on Mam Tor above Castleton, and the other at Combe Moss, four miles from Buxton, may perhaps have been Roman summer camps.

Of Roman antiquities the most remarkable are an altar preserved at Haddon Hall, a silver plate found in Risley Park, and the pigs of lead found near Matlock. These last are sufficient proofs of the Romans having wrought the lead-mines of Derbyshire; and the number of their roads and stations indicates the importance they attached to the district. It is considered by some (*Glover, Hist. of Derbyshire*) that the working of the mines was anterior to the Roman conquest.

In the Saxon division of England, Derbyshire was comprehended in the kingdom of Mercia; and Repandun, or Repton, on the south bank of the Trent, was one of the royal residences. In the great invasion of England by the Danes in the time of Ethelred I. and Alfred, Derbyshire was overrun by them, and in the wars which Alfred and his successors maintained against them this county was frequently the scene of contest. The town of Derby was repeatedly taken and retaken. At the Norman conquest considerable grants of land within the county were made to Henry de Ferrers, whose son Robert was the first earl Ferrers. Another Robert, son of the first earl Ferrers, was created earl of Derby

in 1138. William Peverel, a natural son of the Conqueror, received also considerable grants. He built the castle of the Peak; and he, or his son, is supposed to have built the original Bolsover Castle. The Peak castle is now an 'ill-shapen ruin,' situated on the verge of the rocky precipice that forms the roof of the Peak cavern at Castleton. It was small, but, from its situation, very strong. In the civil war in the reign of Henry II., Robert, earl Ferrers and Derby, who had supported prince Henry in his rebellion against his father, surrendered his castles of Duffield in Derbyshire and Tutbury in Staffordshire to the king. He was afterwards deprived of the earldom of Derby by Richard I., who bestowed it on his own brother John. In the civil war in the time of John, William earl Ferrers, who had obtained a new grant of the earldom of Derby, and who was one of the king's party, took the castles of the Peak and Bolsover, which had by this time passed out of the hands of the Peverel family, and were held by some of the party of the insurgent barons. In the reign of Henry III. the earl of Ferrers and Derby was one of the most active of the insurgent barons; but having been worsted and taken prisoner by Henry, the king's nephew, at the battle of Chesterfield, he was deprived of the earldom of Derby, with the vast possessions attached to it. These were afterwards given to Edmund, earl of Lancaster, son of Henry III., and thus eventually formed part of the domains

of the duchy of Lancaster. No public events of interest are connected with Derbyshire until after the Reformation. The earldom of Derby, in connection with that of Lancaster, descended from prince Edmund to his son Thomas, who headed an insurrection of the barons against Piers Gavestone and Hugh de Spencer, the successive minions of Edward II.: the failure of this last enterprise led to the death of the earl, who was defeated and taken at Boroughbridge, and beheaded in Pontefract Castle in 1322. He was succeeded in his titles and possessions by his brother Henry, who supported queen Isabella and the earl of March (Roger Mortimer) in their successful attempt to dethrone Edward II. The earl was appointed head of the council of twelve bishops and peers, to whom the government was ostensibly intrusted. He died in 1344, and was succeeded in the earldoms of Lancaster and Derby by his son Henry, who had, with the title though not the possessions of earl of Derby, commanded the English forces in Guienne with signal success. This Henry died without male issue; his daughter Blanch married John of Gaunt, or Ghent, son of Edward III., who thus became earl of Lancaster and Derby, and transmitted these titles to his son, afterwards Henry IV. The earldom of Derby was conferred by Henry VII. upon his supporter, lord Stanley, in whose family it has ever since continued. In 1569 the shrievalty of the county was disjoined from that of Nottingham-

shire. Mary, Queen of Scots, was successively confined at Winfield, Chatsworth, Buxton, and Hardwick in this county, from 1568 to 1584. The principal historical events connected with Derbyshire, since the Reformation, occurred during the civil war of Charles I. The county at first declared for the king, who, after setting up his standard at Nottingham, marched to Derby; but it was soon brought over to the side of the parliament by the activity and influence of Sir John Gell, who, marching from Hull into Derbyshire (October, 1642) with a regiment of foot, only 140 men, raised 200 men at Chesterfield, and, proceeding to Derby, garrisoned that town. South Winfield manor-house was also garrisoned for the parliament. In November, 1642, Sir John drove Sir Francis Wortley and the king's forces from Wirksworth and the Peak, took Bretby House, south of the Trent, which had been fortified by the earl of Chesterfield, and defeated the royalists at Swarkestone bridge on the Trent. Next year (A.D. 1643) he took Bolsover Castle, which the earl of Newcastle had fortified for the king; and his brother, Colonel Gell, took Sutton House, near Chesterfield, which had been also garrisoned for the king by lord Deincourt. The earl of Newcastle is said, however, to have gained a victory over the parliamentarians near Chesterfield; he afterwards took South Winfield manor-house: and the royalists possessed themselves of the northern parts of the county. In

March, 1644, there was an engagement on Egginton Heath, near the junction of the Dove with the Trent, in which the victory was doubtful. In the summer of the same year, Sir John Gell took South Winfield manor-house, and defeated the forces sent to relieve it; and General Crawford, another parliamentary commander, took Bolsover Castle and Stavely House. The king, after the battle of Naseby (A.D. 1645), retreated through Derbyshire into Yorkshire, gaining some advantages over Sir John Gell by the way. The subsequent events of the war were unimportant.

In 1688 the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Danby (afterwards Duke of Leeds), and others, met at Whittington, near Chesterfield, to concert measures for bringing William Prince of Orange into the kingdom and placing him on the throne. In 1745 the young Pretender advanced to Derby with an army of 7000 men, who after a halt of two days commenced their retreat northward. In 1817 an insurrection was attempted near South Winfield by a small party, who set out for Nottingham in the hope of being joined by the disaffected on their route; but near Nottingham they were dispersed by the military, and three of the ringleaders, Jeremiah Brandreth, Isaac Ludlam, and William Turner, were executed at Derby. Some unfortunate riots occurred at Derby on the rejection of the Reform Bill in 1831.

Derbyshire contains various relics of the middle ages, baronial, ecclesiasti-

cal, and monastic, which will be noticed more at length in the succeeding chapters. Besides the Peak Castle, there are some remains of Codnor Castle, near Heanor, the ancient residence of the Greys of Codnor: these remains are partly converted into a farm-house. Haddon Hall, a seat of the duke of Rutland, is on the north-east or left bank of the Wye, below Bakewell, and is an interesting example of the style of domestic architecture prevailing in the reign of Henry VIII. Hardwick Hall, between Chesterfield and Mansfield, belongs to the duke of Devonshire, and is an equally interesting specimen of Elizabethan architecture. A still older hall, now in ruins, is situated near the present mansion-house. South Winfield manor-house, now in ruins, was built in the reign of Henry VI. (1422-1461).

The churches of Derbyshire, which

are most remarkable for their ancient remains, are Repton, Melbourne, Ashbourn, Bakewell, Chesterfield, and Dronfield.

The monastic establishments of Derbyshire were neither large nor wealthy, and there are few remains of them. There was a priory at Repton, where some of the kings of Mercia were buried, but it was destroyed by the Danes, and a monastery of Black (or Augustinian) canons rose in its place. At Yeaveley, near Ashbourn, there was a preceptory of the order of St. John of Jerusalem; Dale Abbey, near Derby, was for Premonstratensian (or White) canons; as was also Beauchief Abbey, situated in that part of the county next to Sheffield. These, with other establishments of which little or no trace remains, will be noticed in the course of our itinerary of the county.

POLITICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

POPULATION AND OCCUPATIONS.

Derbyshire is both an agricultural and manufacturing county; it ranked the twenty-ninth on the list of agricultural counties in 1811, but in 1831 it was the thirty-second, its manufacturing class having increased in a greater proportion than the agricultural class. Of 58,178 males 20 years of age and upwards, inhabitants of Derbyshire in 1831, 18,170 were engaged in agricultural pursuits, 10,593 of whom

were labourers; and 8863 were employed in manufactures, or in making manufacturing machinery; there were likewise 10,897 labourers not employed as agriculturists. Of those employed in manufactures, about 1700 were engaged in the cotton-yarn and in the silk manufactures; 1400 in framework and twist; 1200 in cotton and silk hosiery; calico and ginghams, 600; lace and twist net, 450; tape, 60; paper, 40; and about 1400 not accurately classed, engaged in some of the

above manufactures and in the preparation of dye colours, &c.; of these 900 were employed in the town of Derby.

The population of Derbyshire at each of the four periods of—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Inc. per cent.
1801 was	79,401	81,741	161,142	
1811 "	91,494	93,993	185,487	15.10
1821 "	105,873	107,460	213,333	15.01
1831 "	117,740	119,430	237,170	11.22

Showing an increase between the first and last periods of 76,028, or not quite 47½ per cent., which is about 10 per cent. below the general rate of increase throughout England.

The following summary of the population, taken at the enumeration of 1831, exhibits the number of inhabitants, &c., in the county:—

Houses.

Inhabited	40,098
Families	48,320
Building	357
Uninhabited	1,989

Occupations.

Families chiefly employed in agriculture	13,324
" " trade, manufactures, and handicraft	20,784
All other families not comprised in the two preceding classes	14,208

Persons.

Males	117,740
Females	119,430
Total of persons	237,170
Males 20 years of age	58,178

Agriculture.

Occupiers employing labourers	3,320
" not employing labourers	4,257
Labourers employed in agriculture	10,593

Other Occupations.

Employed in manufacture, or in making manufacturing machinery.	8,863
Employed in retail trade, or in handicraft as masters or workmen	14,787
Capitalists, bankers, professional and other educated men	1,829
Labourers employed in labour not agricultural	10,897
Other males 20 years of age (except servants)	2,863
Male servants, 20 years of age	769
" under 20 years of age	319
Female servants	7,231

LEGAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The divisions of Derbyshire for civil purposes were anciently called wapentakes; and of these divisions the 'Domeeday Survey' mentions five: Scarvedale (Scarsdale), Hamestan (supposed to be what is now called the High Peak Hundred), Morleston (Morleston), Walecross (supposed to be what is now the hundred of Repton and Gresley), and Apultre (Apple-tree); beside a district called Peches Fers (Peak Forest). A document of a somewhat later date (the 'Hundred Roll,' A.D. 1273) speaks of the wapentakes of Peck (Peak), Scarvedale, Apeltre, Repindon (Repington or Repton), Greslegh (Gresley), Littlechirch (Litchurch), and Wirksworth (Wirksworth). Other records speak of the hundreds of Risley (Gresley?) and Sawley. The present division is as follows. The Wirksworth division is still called wapentake: the others are called hundreds.

I. High Peak (203,190 acres), North and North-West, and Central. Population in 1831, 47,495, or 149 per square mile.

II. Wirksworth (73,880 acres), West and Central. Population 23,287, or 202 per square mile.

III. Scarsdale (144,750 acres), East and Central. Population 53,582, or 237 per square mile.

IV. Morleston and Litchurch (77,440 acres), South East. Population 61,779, or 323 per square mile.

V. Appletree (108,170 acres), South-West and Central. Population 32,483, or 192 per square mile.

VI. Repington or Repton and Gresley (55,750 acres), South. Population 18,554, or 216 per square mile.

The population per square mile averages 230 for the county,* which is about 29 below the average for the whole of England.

There is in Derbyshire only one parliamentary borough, Derby; the other market-towns are 16. There are several places which formerly had markets, viz., Dronfield, Ashover, Heanor, and Ilkestone; those at Bolsover, Higham-in-Shirland, Hope, Matlock, Measham, and Sawley have been discontinued within memory.

FAIRS AND MARKETS.

There are numerous fairs in the county, as well as weekly markets: the principal fairs are the following:—

Alfreton, July 31; November 22 (for horses and horned cattle).

Ashbourn, first Tuesday in January; February 13 (for horses and cattle); April 3; May 21; July 5 (do. and wool); August 16 (horses and cattle); October 10 (do.); St. Andrew's Eve, or Saturday before (a considerable horse fair).

*Ashover, April 25 and October 15 (cattle and sheep).

Bakewell, Easter Monday; Whit Monday; August 26; Monday after October 10; and Monday after November 22.

Belper, May 12; October 31 (cattle and sheep). Bolsover, Easter Monday.

Chapel-en-le-Frith, Thursday before February 13; March 24 and 29; Thursday before Easter; April 30; Holy Thursday and three weeks after (cattle); July 7 (wool); Thursday before August 24 (sheep and cheese); Thursday after September 29; Thursday before November 11 (cattle).

Chesterfield, January 25 or Saturday before (cattle); February 28 or Saturday before; first Saturday in April; May 4; July 5 (horses and cattle); September 25 (cheese, onions, &c.); last Saturday in November (cattle, sheep).

Crich, Old Lady Day; Old Michaelmas Day.

*Cubley, November 30 (fat hogs).

*Darley Flash, May 13; October 27 (cattle and sheep).

Derby, January 25; March 21 and 22 (cheese); Friday in Easter week (cattle); Friday after May-day; Friday in Whitsun week; July 25 (cattle); September 27, 28, 29 (cheese); Friday before Old Michaelmas (cattle); October 18 (cheese).

Dronfield, April 25 (cattle and cheese); August 11.

*Duffield, March 1 (cattle).

Higham, first Wednesday in the year.

*Hope, May 12 and September 29 (cattle).

*Matlock, February 25; May 9; July 10; October 24 (cattle and sheep).

*Newhaven, September 11; October 30 (horses, cattle, and sheep, and a great holiday fair).

*Pleasley, May 6; October 29 (horses, cattle, and sheep).

*Ripley, Wednesday in Easter week; October 23 (horses and cattle).

* See page 1.

*Sawley, November 12 or Saturday before (foals).

Tideswell, May 3 (cattle); second Wednesday in September; October 29 (cattle and sheep).

Winster, Easter Monday.

Wirksworth, Shrove Tuesday; May 12; September 8; October 4 and 5 (cattle).

Statutes for hiring servants are held at Bolsover, November 1; Dronfield, November 3; Eckington, November 5; Alfreton, November 24; and Chesterfield, November 25.*

There are 4 members of parliament returned for the county (2 for the northern and 2 for the southern division), and 2 for the borough of Derby. The northern division of the county includes the hundreds of High Peak and Scarsdale, and part of the wapentake of Wirksworth: the principal place of election is Bakewell, and the polling stations are Bakewell, Chesterfield, and Chapel-en-le-Frith. The southern division includes the hundreds of Appletree, Morleston and Litchurch, and Repton and Gresley, and part of the wapentake of Wirksworth: the principal place of election is Derby, and the polling stations are Derby, Ashbourn, Wirksworth, Melbourne, and Belper. The number of county electors on the register for the year 1839-40 was as follows:—

	N. Div.	S. Div.
Freeholders . . .	3,868	4,708
Copyholders . . .	160	270
Carried forward	4,028	4,987

* Those places which are marked (*) have no weekly markets. Buxton and Cromford have a market, and no fairs.

	N. Div.	S. Div.
Brought forward	4,028	4,987
Leaseholders for period of years or for lives . .	318	35
Occupying tenants at a rent of 50 <i>l.</i> per annum .	1,213	1,525
Trustees and Mortgagees .	41	13
Holders of Ecclesiastical and Parochial appointments, &c. . . .	19	12
Joint qualifications, including all who are registered for more than one qualification . . .	103	65
	<u>5,722</u>	<u>6,657</u>

The number of persons qualified to vote according to the above official statement was 12,379, being about 1 in 19 of the whole population, and rather more than 1 in 5 of the male population 20 years of age and upwards, as taken in 1831.

Derbyshire is in the Midland Circuit: the assizes and the quarter-sessions are held at Derby, except the Easter sessions, which are held at Chesterfield. Until the year 1569 this county and Nottinghamshire formed but one shrievalty, and until the reign of Henry III. the assizes for both counties were held at Nottingham: afterwards, until Derby was made a distinct shrievalty, they were held alternately at Nottingham and Derby.

Beside the ordinary county jurisdiction, Derby has some legal peculiarities, the relics of the institutions of former times. The hundred of Appletree and the honour of Tutbury form parts of the duchy of Lancaster. The courts of pleas of the duchy, commonly called the three weeks' courts,

are held at Sudbury for the hundred of Appletree, and at Tutbury (which is in Staffordshire) for the honour of Tutbury. The jurisdiction of these courts extends to most places in the county: in them all debts and damages under *10s.* are recoverable. The Peveril court has likewise a very extensive jurisdiction; actions are brought in it for the recovery of small debts, and the proceedings are more expeditious and less expensive than in the courts at Westminster. This court is held at Basford, near Nottingham.

Derbyshire has some peculiar laws and regulations connected with the working of the lead-mines. These laws and regulations are of very high antiquity. The principal part of the county where lead ore is found in any considerable quantity is called 'The King's Field,' and comprehends nearly all the wapentake of Wirksworth and a considerable part of the High Peak hundred. 'The King's Field' has been from time immemorial let on lease. The lessees (of whom, when Pilkington wrote his account of Derbyshire, A.D. 1789, there were two) have each in his respective district a steward and barmasters. The steward presides as judge in the barmote courts, and, with 24 jurymen, chosen every half-year, determines all disputes which arise respecting the working of the mines. Debts incurred in working the mines are cognizable in these courts. These courts meet twice a year, or oftener if need be. The court for the High Peak district meets at Monyash, that for

the wapentake district at the town of Wirksworth.

The office of the barmaster is principally to put miners into the possession of veins that they have discovered, and to collect the proportion of ore to which the lessee of the crown or the lord of the manor has a claim. When a miner has discovered a new vein of ore in 'The King's Field,' he may acquire a title to the exclusive possession of it, provided it be not in a garden, orchard, or high road, by a proper application to the barmaster of the liberty. Should the miner neglect to work the vein, the barmaster may, after a certain time, dispose of it to any one who is willing to try it.

Derbyshire is in the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry: it constitutes the archdeaconry of Derby, which is subdivided into the six rural deaneries of Ashbourn, Castillar, Chesterfield, Derby, High Peak, and Repington or Repton. The deanery of High Peak has by some been called the archdeaconry of Derby, as though this were an ecclesiastical subdivision of the county. The number of parishes was given by Camden from Wolsey's list at 106, but later authorities make them more numerous; Pilkington states them at 116, their dependent chapelries at 69, and the extra-parochial chapels at 2: Messrs. Lysons state the parishes at 117; with 67 chapels, in 52 of which (49 parochial, 3 extra-parochial) the rites of marriage and sepulture are performed: many of these are frequently described as parish

churches. The Population Tables contain a list of 140 parishes (beside 4 which are chiefly in other counties), 3 extra-parochial chapelries, and 46 dependent chapelries. The difference between these numbers and those given by Messrs. Lysons may be partly accounted for by supposing several of the dependent chapelries to be entered as distinct parishes. Of the 117 parishes given by Messrs. Lysons, 50 are rectories, 58 vicarages, and 9 donatives, or perpetual curacies. In the Reports of the Commissioners of Ecclesiastical Revenue, published in 1835, the number of rectories is given at 49, vicarages 54, perpetual curacies 60, curacies 14, and donatives 7, making a total of 184; which is about the number of episcopalian places of worship in the county. There are 9 Roman Catholic chapels, and 175 belonging to various denominations of Protestant Dissenters, and the number of places of worship licensed for the solemnization of marriages under 6 and 7 Wm. IV., c. 85, is 20. Some of the Derbyshire parishes are very large, especially those in the High Peak hundred. Glossop parish contains 49,960 acres, or more than 78 square miles; Bakewell, 43,020, or above 67 square miles; Hope, 36,160, or above 56 square miles; and Hartington (in Wirksworth hundred), 24,160, or above 37 square miles: 9 other parishes in the county have from 10,000 to 20,000 acres, or from 15 to 30 square miles. The average *net* annual income of the benefices in Derbyshire for the three

years ending 1831, not deducting curates' stipenda, was as follows:—

Alfreton, V.	£ 150
Alsop-le-Dale, P. C.	49
Alvaston, P. C.	116
Ashbourn, V. with Mapleton, R.	134
Ashover, R.	481
Aston-upon-Trent, R.	1030
Atlow in Bradbourne, P. C.	148
Bakewell, V.	350
Barlborough, R.	515
Barlow in Staveley, P. C.	99
Barrow, V. with Twyford, C.	105
Barton Blount, R.	69
Baslow, P. C.	115
Beeley, P. C.	98
Beighton, V.	312
Belper, P. C.	158
Blackwell, V.	90
Bolsover, V.	111
Bonsall, R.	201
Boulton, St. Peter's, Derby, P. C.	120
Boylstone, R.	260
Bradbourne, V. with Ballidon, C.	119
Bradley, R.	259
Brailsford, R. with Osmaston, R.	673
Brampton, P. C.	143
Brampton, St. Thomas, P. C.	49
Brassington, P. C.	87
Breadsall, R.	580
Bretby, (Don.)	80
Brimington, P. C.	102
Buxton, P. C.	105
Calke, C.	34
Carington, R.	176
Castleton, V.	186
Chaldesden, P. C.	89
Chapel-en-le-Frith, P. C.	145
Chellaston, P. C.	80
Chelmorton, P. C.	86
Chesterfield, V.	204
Church Broughton, V.	223

Church Gresley, P. C.	£ 108	Hault Haucknall, V.	£ 113
Clowne, R.	311	Hayfield, P. C.	96
Crich, V.	98	Heage, P. C.	70
Cromford, P. C.	96	Heanor, V.	109
Croxall, V.	489	Heath (or Lowne), V.	174
Cabley, R. with Marston Montgomery, R.	523	Hognaston, P. C.	55
Dalbury, R.	206	Holbroke, P. C.	93
Darleigh, North and South, R.	434	Holmsfield, P. C.	97
Darley Abbey, in St. Alkmund, Derby, P. C.	153	Hope, V.	132
Darwent, P. C.	83	Horsley, V.	110
Denby, P. C.	94	Ilkestone, V.	150
Derby, St. Alkmund's, V.	235	Kedleston, R.	155
„ All Saints, P. C.	80	Kirkhallum, V.	309
„ St. John's, P. C.	109	Kirk Ireton, R.	355
„ St. Michael's, P. C.	79	Kirk Langley, R.	318
„ St. Peter's, V. with Normanton, C.	148	Kniveton, P. C.	64
„ St. Werburgh, V.	298	Langwith, R.	204
Dethick, P. C.	93	Longford, V.	260
Dore, P. C.	90	Lullington, V.	62
Doveridge, V.	562	Mackworth, V. with Allestree, P. C.	161
Dronfield, V.	224	Marston-upon-Dore, V.	225
Duffield, V.	141	Matlock, R.	320
Earl Sterndale, P. C.	96	Measham, P. C.	97
Eaton, Little, P. C.	94	Melbourne, V.	179
Eckington, R. with Killamarsh, R.	1595	Mellor, P. C.	136
Edale, P. C.	126	Mickleover, V. with Littleover, C. and Findern, C.	562
Edensor, (Don. C.)	40	Monyash, P. C.	74
Edlaaton, R.	220	Morley, R. with Smalley, C.	648
Eggington, R.	453	Morton, R.	360
Elmton, V.	55	„ Trinity Chapel, P. C.	32
Elton, P. C.	98	Muggington, R.	365
Elvaston, V.	160	New Mills (St. George's), Glossop, P. C.	9
Etwall, V.	312	Newton Solney (Don.)	20
Eyam, R.	226	Normanton, South, R.	320
Fairfield, Don. C.	79	Norton, V.	270
Fenny Bentley, R.	124	Ockbrook, V.	154
Foremark, (Don. C.)	31	Osmaston, P. C.	280
Glossop, V.	114	Parwick, P. C.	108
Hallam, West, R.	250	Peak Forest (Don.)	70
Hartington, V.	149	Pentrich, V. with Ripley, C.	265
Hartshorne, R.	540	Pinxton, R.	293
Hathersage, V.	126	Pleasley, R. with Shirebrook, C.	493

Quarndon, P. C.	£ 63	Sutton on the Hill, V.	£225
Radbourne, R.	372	Swarkeston, R.	182
Ravenstone, R.	300	Taddington, P. C.	87
Repton, P. C.	123	Thorpe, R.	129
Risley, P. C. with Breaston, P. C.	119	Tibshelf, V.	172
Sandiacre, P. C.	95	Ticknall, P. C.	97
Sawley, V. with Wilne, C. and Long Eaton, C.	266	Tideswell, V.	109
Scarcliffe, V.	68	Tissington, P. C.	97
Scropton, (Don.)	49	Trusley, R.	129
Sheldon, P. C.	99	Turnditch, P. C.	63
Shirland, R.	215	Walton-upon-Trent, R. with Roeliston, C.	828
Smisby or Smithsby, P. C.	58	Weston-upon-Trent, R.	591
Somerhall, R.	225	Whitwell, R.	626
Spondon, V.	162	Willesley, P. C.	62
Stanley, P. C.	64	Willington, V.	82
Stanton-by-Bridge, R.	345	Wingerworth, P. C.	77
Stanton-juxta-Dale, V. and Dale Abbey, C.	195	Wingfield, North, R.	772
Stapenhill, V. with Caldwell, C.	373	Wingfield, South, V.	324
Staveley, R.	706	Winster, P. C.	104
Stony Middleton, P. C.	88	Wirksworth, V.	164
		Wormhill, P. C.	270
		Youlgreave, V.	214

CIVIC ECONOMY.

LOCAL TAXATION AND EXPENDITURE.

The sum of 1,809,502*l.* was assessed under the various schedules of the property tax in 1814-15, namely, 883,018*l.* to owners; 716,496*l.* to occupiers* and 209,988*l.* on profits in trade, besides small sums under one or two other heads. Owners were assessed as follows:—On lands, 707,250*l.*; houses, 87,563*l.*; quarries, 1,164*l.*; mines, 26,217*l.*; iron works, &c., 39,915*l.*;

manorial profits, 62*l.*; tithes, 20,775*l.* In 1833, the sum of 108,074*l.* was levied in the county for poor's rate, county rate, and other local purposes, when land was assessed at 81,846*l.*; dwelling-houses, 20,340*l.*; mills, factories, &c., 3358*l.*; manorial profits, navigation, &c., 2,529*l.*

The average sum expended annually for the relief of the poor in the years 1748-9-50, was 7,677*l.*; in 1776 it had reached 17,441*l.*; in the three years from 1783 to 1785 the annual average was 22,925*l.*; and the amount was

* Occupiers of land were assessed at three-fourths of the rental or annual value.

as follows at the under-mentioned dates :—

1801	£54,406, which was 6s. 9d.	
1811	93,963	" " 10 1
1821	86,756	" " 8 1
1831	78,717	" " 6 7
1834	72,731	" " 6 2
1835	62,935	" " 5 4
1836	55,018	" " 4 8
1837	48,967	" " 4 1
1838	48,235	" " 4 1

} for each
inhabitant.

Assuming that the population had increased at the same rate of percentage since 1831 as in the 10 years preceding that period, the poor rates paid in 1838 would give an average of only 3s. 9½d. per head. Had it not been for the high price of provisions in the two last years above mentioned and the embarrassed state of trade and manufactures, the average would doubtless have been even considerably less. Comparing 1838 with 1834, there has been a decrease of 34 per cent. in the sum expended for relief and maintenance; and including law charges, the saving effected amounts to 38 per cent.

There are eight unions under the Poor Law Amendment Act, each of the following places being the centre of a union :—Bakewell, Belper, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Chesterfield, Derby, Glossop, Hayfield, and Shardlow.

The county expenditure for bridges, gaols, prosecutions, and other local purposes to which the county rate was applied, amounted to 6,392*l.* in 1799; to 8,188*l.* in 1811; to 11,504*l.* in 1821; and to 19,311*l.* in 1831. For several years about this period the disbursements exceeded the receipts, and a

debt was incurred by the county, of which 10,700*l.* remained unpaid in 1839. In 1838 the county expenditure was 12,125*l.*

Taking the average of the 3 years ending October 1812-13-14, the total sum received by the surveyors of highways was 9,647*l.*, which included 5,600*l.* levied for repairs of the roads and 4,047*l.* composition money paid in lieu of statute labour; and the estimated labour of statute duty performed being valued at 10,391*l.* the total expenditure on the highways was 20,624*l.* During this period large sums were expended in employing persons upon the roads who were temporarily thrown upon the parish. Since the Poor Law Amendment Act was passed in 1834, this desultory and inefficient practice has been in a great measure abandoned. In 1827 the amount of highway rates levied in the county was 16,049*l.* In 1839 the expenditure on highways amounted to 18,627*l.*

In 1812-13-14 the length of paved streets and roads in the county was estimated at 637 miles, and for all other highways used for wheel carriages at 1696 miles. In 1839 the extent of carriage roads for the repair of which the surveyors of the highways were responsible, was 1978 miles, and the cost of repairs per mile was 9*l.* 8s. This is exclusive of paved streets and turnpike roads. In 1834 the number of turnpike trusts in Derbyshire was 40, and the number of miles of road under their charge 574. The annual income of that year arising from toll-

was 31,084*l.* and from parish compositions and estimated value of statute labour 5,530*l.*, which with the receipts from other sources made the total income 38,920*l.*, the total expenditure being 41,819*l.* The bonded or mortgage debts amounted to 280,445*l.*; floating debt 26,474*l.*; unpaid interest 103,119*l.*

The sums received and expended by the churchwardens in 1832 were as follows:—Receipts, 6,629*l.*, viz. church rates, 3,849*l.*; from estates, &c., 220*l.*; burial fees, 65*l.*; poor rates, 1,719*l.*; rent of pews, 170*l.*; other sources, 603*l.* Expenditure, 6,637*l.*, under the following heads:—Repairs of churches, &c., 3,410*l.*; organs, bells, &c., 318*l.*; books, wine, &c., 518*l.*; salaries to clerks, sextons, &c., 1,224*l.*; other purposes, 1,165*l.* In 1839 the total receipts amounted to 4,832*l.*, of which 3,961*l.* was derived from church rates, and 871*l.* from other sources. The sum of 4,605*l.* was expended, of which 1,749*l.* was for repairs of churches. There is a debt of 1,900*l.* secured on the church rates.

EDUCATION.

From the Parliamentary returns made in the session of 1833, there appear to have been 776 daily schools and 420 Sunday schools in the county; the former attended by 24,508 children and the latter by 39,184 children. Adding these two numbers together, we have a total of 63,702 children, the number of children in the county between the ages of 2 and 15 being 21,000, or between 4 and 14, 66,000.

In either case there would be a number of children not receiving instruction. But the Parliamentary returns in many cases double the number of children attending schools, duplicate entries occurring wherever a daily and a Sunday school are attended by the same child. Thirty-four schools, attended by 2058 children, were both Sunday and daily schools, and only 18 Sunday schools were established in places where there was no day-school; but to what extent duplicate entries occurred cannot be estimated. Forty-six of the daily schools attended by 1406 children are classed in the Returns as 'Infant Schools,' but most of them are, properly speaking, 'dame schools.' It appears that 120 daily and 6 Sunday schools were supported by endowments; 385 Sunday schools and 24 daily schools by subscription; and the remainder by payments from the scholars, or by payments and subscriptions conjointly. There were 30 boarding-schools in the county, and lending libraries were attached to 90 schools, chiefly Sunday schools. In a table given in the second Report of the Registrar-General, of the number of persons who were able to attest their marriage by their signatures in full, the proportion in Derbyshire was 59 per cent., and for England and Wales 40 per cent.

CRIME.

For nearly a quarter of a century crime has been constantly increasing in the county: the number of persons charged with criminal offences in the

7 years ending 1820 was 96 annually ; for a similar period ending 1827 the number had not increased more rapidly than the population, the annual average being 105 ; but in the 7 years ending 1834 the number had risen to 189 ; and in the 5 years ending 1839 the annual average was 219, being an increase of 100 per cent. as compared with the first period, the population during this interval having increased about 40 per cent. The proportion of criminals to the population is, however, lower than most of the English counties, having been 1 in 1355 in 1835, the proportion for England and Wales being 1 in 631 ; and only the counties of Cornwall, Durham, Cumberland, Northumberland, and Westmoreland having in that year a smaller proportional number of criminals than Derbyshire. The amount of land held in small portions as freehold will partly account for this favourable state of things. Of the offences annually committed, rather more than one-half are cases of simple larceny, and the punishment awarded in one-half the convictions which take place consists of imprisonment for periods of 6 months and under. In 1839, at the assizes and sessions, 239 persons were charged with crimes. Of these, 26 were charged with offences against the person, 17 of which were for assaults, including 13 assaults on peace officers ; 29 for offences against property committed with violence ; 179 offences against property committed without violence, 129 being cases of

simple larceny, and 26 for larceny from the person, as pocket picking ; only 1 offence was classed under the head of malicious injuries to property ; there were 2 cases of uttering base coin ; 1 of poaching, and 1 of perjury. Of the whole number committed 57 were acquitted and 182 were convicted : of the latter 2 were transported for life ; 15 for periods of from 10 to 15 years ; 19 for periods varying from 7 to 10 years, and 6 for 7 years ; 5 were sentenced to imprisonment for periods of from 1 to 2 years ; 22 from 6 months to 1 year ; 111 for periods of 6 months and under ; and 2 were fined or whipped. Of the offenders 216 were males, and 23 females ; and one-third were aged between 21 and 30, and six-sevenths were above 16 and under 40. Rather more than one-third (74) could neither read nor write, and the remainder could only read and write imperfectly. The proportion of instructed criminals does not average more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., that is only 5 in 200 can read and write well, or in such a manner as to entitle them to be considered as possessing the keys to knowledge.

SAVINGS' BANKS.

There are 6 of these excellent institutions in the county, viz. at Derby, Chesterfield, Belper, Ashbourn, Wirksworth, and Chapel-en-le-Frith. The number of depositors of sums under 20l. has increased from 2462 in 1834 to 3465 in 1839 : in 1835 out of 1000 persons of all ages in the county, there

were 10 depositors of this class, and now there are 14, which, however, is lower than the average proportion for the whole of England. The number of depositors exceeding 20*l*. was also 1000 higher in 1839 than in 1834. The state of the savings' banks in Derbyshire in Nov. 1839 was as follows:—

Depositors under 20 <i>l</i>	No. 3465
Amount deposited	£26,922
Total number of depositors . .	No. 7298
Amount deposited	£255,726
Deposits of 64 Charitable Institutions	£3459
Deposits of 185 Friendly Societies	£23,374

CHAPTER II.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN DERBYSHIRE AND LONDON, &c.

NOTWITHSTANDING the rugged nature of a large portion of the county, the number of railways in Derbyshire is greater than in many others in which there are fewer obstacles to the formation of such lines of communication. The mineral wealth of the county had long rendered it desirable to provide means for distributing it in other districts, and two lines were formed at an early period in the history of railways. Tram-roads, which were common in the districts of Durham and Northumberland early in the seventeenth century, are to be seen in Derbyshire wherever coal-pits or other mines are worked.

1. *The Mansfield and Pinxton Railway*, for which an act was obtained in 1825, commences at Pinxton Basin, near Alfreton, where it communicates with a branch of the Cromford Canal. A branch railway begins about a mile and a half from Pinxton Basin, and passes eastward about a mile and a half to the Cromford Canal, a short distance from the Codnor Park iron works. Both lines pass through a country abounding in minerals, and in which means of transport were pre-

vously much wanted. The main line terminates at Bull's Head Lane, in the town of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. A double line of rails is carried throughout the line, which is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, and for its execution the company, at the head of which was the Duke of Portland, was empowered to raise a capital of 32,800*l*. No stationary or locomotive engines are used, horse power being alone employed. Coal and minerals are the principal commodities conveyed. The average inclination of the line is about 50 feet per mile.

2. *The Cromford and High Peak Railway*, the act for which was obtained in 1825, begins at the Cromford Canal, 1 mile south of Cromford, and ends at the Peak Forest Canal at Whaley Bridge. Its length is about 34 miles, and in its course it passes over some high land, running by a circuitous route to the north side of the Axe Edge Hills, where it makes a great bend to avoid a valley. It then runs within a mile of Buxton, and past Goyt's Bridge to its terminus at Whaley Bridge. It attains an elevation of 990 feet above the level of Cromford,

or 1271 feet above the sea low-water mark. This ascent is accomplished by means of several inclined planes, up which the waggons are drawn by stationary steam-engines. The summit level is maintained for a distance of 12½ miles, and in its course it passes through a hill by means of a tunnel 638 yards long. The line is also carried over 52 bridges and archways. By means of this railroad a convenient communication is opened for the conveyance of minerals and merchandise between the counties of Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester, and the town of Manchester and port of Liverpool. Where the stationary engines are not used horse power is employed. The capital raised under the act of incorporation was 164,000*l.* in shares of 100*l.* each; which was further increased by a sum of 32,880*l.*, making the total capital 197,280*l.* The line was opened in 1830, five years after the act had been obtained.

We have next to notice the railways connected with Derbyshire which are intended for the conveyance of passengers as well as goods. There are—1. The Birmingham and Derby Railway. 2. The Midland Counties Railway. 3. The North Midland Railway. 4. The Sheffield and Manchester railway.

1. *The Birmingham and Derby Junction Railway* is connected with the London and Birmingham line by branches at Hampton and at Birmingham. The length of the line from the terminus at Hampton to Derby is 38½, and from the Birmingham terminus to

Derby 47½ miles. The branches unite at Colehill about 14 miles from Birmingham and 6 from Hampton, and the line then proceeds by a course nearly due north to Tamworth, crossing the Tame and the Trent at their junction in Croxall parish, and passing close by Burton-upon-Trent on its west side, through Willington and Normanton to Derby. This line forms the grand chain of railway communication between the Severn and the northern and western parts of England. At the western terminus of the line at Birmingham, it forms a junction with railways to London, Gloucester, Bristol and Exeter, and to Liverpool, Manchester, and Lancaster; the northern terminus at Derby uniting with lines which extend the means of communication to Nottingham, Sheffield, Leeds, Hull, York, and Newcastle. The works were not commenced until 1837, and the line was opened throughout in August, 1839. The traveller cannot fail to admire the beautiful viaduct over the Anker river between Kingsbury and Tamworth, consisting of 18 arches of 30 feet span each, and 1 oblique arch of 60 feet span, the whole elevated 23 feet above the bed of the river: the cost of this work was 18,000*l.* Before reaching Tamworth there is an embankment which in some parts is 30 feet above the level of the surrounding country; and after leaving that town there is a cutting 2 miles long, which in some places is 45 feet deep. Between Tamworth and Burton-upon-Trent, near

the confluence of the Tame and Trent, is the viaduct by which these rivers are crossed ; it is a quarter of a mile in length, standing upon 1000 piles driven 15 feet below the beds of the rivers, and cost 14,000*l*. Notwithstanding the expense of these works the cost of the line did not exceed the sum which the act of incorporation enabled the company to raise—a rare instance in the history of these stupendous undertakings.

After this general description of the line, its connection with Derbyshire remains to be shown. On leaving the Tamworth Station we soon approach the south-western corner of Derbyshire, and from the confluence of the Trent and Tame to the junction of the Dove with the Trent, the railway pursues the valley of the Trent, the river forming the boundary of Derbyshire. The distance between these two points is about 10 miles, and though the railway does not once enter the county, yet in no case is it more than a mile from the river which forms its boundary ; and as for the most part of its course it passes within a still shorter distance, it is nearly as serviceable to the tourist in this part of Derbyshire as if it entered the county. Passing Walton-hall on the banks of the Trent we quickly reach the Walton Station, 14 miles from Derby. The Station at Burton-upon-Trent is 4 miles nearer Derby, and 2 miles from Barton we enter Derbyshire and immediately cross the Dove. The Willington Station is 6 miles from the Derby Station. The places adjacent to the above sta-

tions will be more conveniently noticed on taking an excursion along the line from Derby.

2. *The Midland Counties Railway* has its southern terminus at Rugby, where it joins the London and Birmingham Railway, at a distance of 82½ miles from London ; and it has two northern termini, one at Nottingham and the other at Derby, which diverge at Long Eaton. The length of the line from its junction with the London and Birmingham Railway at Rugby to Derby is 49½ miles, making the distance from London to Derby 131½ miles, and therefore about 11 miles shorter than the Birmingham and Derby Junction line from Hampton. From Derby to Nottingham the length of the line is rather more than 15½ miles. The Midland Counties line, after leaving Rugby, passes through or near Leicester, Mount Sorrel, and Loughborough : it proceeds in a direct course nearly north to the town of Leicester, a distance of 20 miles ; the course then varies to about north-west, when the line is continued parallel to the river Soar, north of the town of Loughborough and through a populous manufacturing district. A portion of the line was opened in June, 1839 ; a further portion on May 5, and the whole line on June 30, 1840. The amount of earth-work in forming the line, especially on the portion south of Leicester, was considerable ; the average of the whole line being 110,000 cubic yards per mile, and of the southern part 159,000 cubic yards. Near the junction with the Birmingham

Railway at Rugby there is an extensive viaduct. There are two short tunnels, near Leicester, and at Redhill: on emerging from the latter the railway crosses the Trent by a beautiful bridge of 3 iron arches of 100 feet span, a little beyond which the line diverges to Derby and Nottingham.

The greater portion of the traffic between London and Derby, Nottingham, Sheffield, Leeds, York, Hull, and Newcastle will naturally flow into this line, which thus becomes one of great importance. By it also a supply of coal may be received in London from the important and valuable coal-fields in Derbyshire.

Soon after leaving the Loughborough Station we cross the Soar and enter Nottinghamshire, in which county, along the valley of the Soar, the railway is carried for about 7 miles, when crossing the Trent we enter Derbyshire. A line drawn due west from Loughborough to the nearest part of Derbyshire would form the base of an angle about 12 miles in length, the eastern side of the angle being formed by the railway, the western side by the boundary line of the county, and the vertex of the angle being the point where it enters Derbyshire. At this point the line diverges, one branch being carried to Nottingham, distant 6 miles, and the other to Derby, distant $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The stations in Derbyshire are at Long Eaton, Sawley, Borrowash, and Spondon; but the places in their respective vicinities will be noticed in passing from Derby to Nottingham.

. *The North Midland Railway.*

This railway commences at Derby, where a station of extraordinary extent has been erected, for the use of this and the other lines terminating in that town. The line takes a very picturesque course by Belper and Chesterfield to Rotherham, where it communicates with the Sheffield and Rotherham Railway. Near Wakefield the Manchester and Leeds Railway joins this line, and further north are the two junctions of the line from York. The northern terminus is at Leeds, and the length of the whole line is $72\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Of the most remarkable works on the line may be mentioned the Milford tunnel, of 836 yards, that at Clay Cross of about a mile, (the two former in Derbyshire,) and the Chevet tunnel near Wakefield of 600 yards; the viaduct at Bull Bridge, Derbyshire, where the river Amber, a turnpike road, the railway, and the Cromford Canal intersect each other in the order recited, upon as many different levels; and those at Beighton, of seven, and near Rotherham, of about thirty arches. The bridges are in many cases of great dimensions. The Derwent at Belper Pool is crossed by two bridges of Baltic timber, one 400 and the other 450 feet long, the two containing 200,000 cubic feet of timber. There are 7 tunnels in the entire line, amounting in the whole to 3,800 yards, or nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and upwards of 200 bridges. The quantity of earth moved in forming the line averaged 130,000 cubic yards per mile. This astonishing amount of labour was performed in

little more than three years, the Clay Cross tunnel having been commenced in February, 1837, 40 miles of the line being opened in May, and the whole on July 1, 1840. During part of the time that the works were in progress, from 9,000 to 10,000 men, assisted by 18 steam engines, were employed. The parliamentary capital of the company is 3,000,000*l.*, and their disbursements to Dec. 31, 1840, were 2,929,696*l.* There can be little doubt of this line becoming one of the most important channels of traffic and intercourse in the kingdom. It passes through the whole extent of the great Derbyshire and Yorkshire coal-field, and is the medium of communication between the towns of Chesterfield, Sheffield, Rotherham, Barnsley, Wakefield, and Leeds, and the active manufacturing communities of which the above places are the centre. On the west of the line there is a communication with Manchester and the im-

portant intervening districts, and on the east there are branches to Selby and Hull, and to York and Newcastle. The main line passes through some of the most picturesque districts in England, 34 miles of its course being within Derbyshire, whose singular beauties will in consequence become more familiar to pleasure tourists from the metropolis, and from the midland and northern manufacturing districts; and this will be the case to an extent proportioned to the difficulty of access to the county which formerly existed. To thousands who have little time at their command, but who usually snatch a few days during the fine season for a country excursion, Derbyshire will be almost an entirely new field opened by the railways for their enjoyment; and seven or eight hours will enable them to reach the most picturesque parts of the county from the distant metropolis.

The following table shows the dis-

DERBY,		DERBY.		The Mail-Trains travel from Derby to Leeds in three hours, stopping only at first-class stations, which are denoted in the table by Roman capitals. The Mixed Trains stop at second class stations, which are indicated by small capitals, and also at each principal station. Every morning and evening a train starts from each end of the line which calls at every station, performing the journey in 4½ hours.							
Duffield,	5½	Duffield.									
BELPER,	7½	2 BELPER.									
AMBER GATE,	10½	5½ 3½	AMBER GATE,								
WINKFIELD,	14	8½ 6½ 3½	WINKFIELD.								
Smithy Moor,	17½	12½ 10½ 7½ 3½	Smithy Moor.								
Tupton,	20	14½ 12½ 9½ 6 2½	Tupton.								
CHESTERFIELD, ...	24	18½ 16½ 13½ 10 6½ 4	CHESTERFIELD.								
Staveley, ...	27½	22½ 20½ 17½ 13½ 10 7½ 3½	Staveley.								
ECKINGTON,	30½	25 23 19½ 16½ 12½ 10½ 6½ 2½	ECKINGTON.								
Killamarsh,	32½	27 25 21½ 18½ 14½ 12½ 8½ 4½	2 Killamarsh.								
BRIGHTON,	34	28½ 26½ 23½ 20 16½ 14 10 6½ 3½ 1½	BRIGHTON.								
ROTHERHAM,	40	34½ 32½ 29½ 26 22½ 20 16 12½ 9½ 7½ 6	ROTHERHAM.								
BARNSELY,	53	47½ 45½ 42½ 39 35½ 33 29 25½ 22½ 20½ 19 13	BARNSELY.								
WAKEFIELD,	60	54½ 52½ 49½ 46 42½ 40 36 32½ 29½ 27½ 26 20 7	WAKEFIELD.								
LEEDS,	72½	67½ 65½ 62½ 58½ 55 50½ 48½ 45 42½ 40½ 38½ 32½ 19 12½	LEEDS.								

tances to every station in the county, but for that part of the line which is not in Derbyshire only some of the principal stations are given: the railway enters Yorkshire at the Beighton Station, and sweeps down the beautiful valley of the Rother to Rotherham, where there is a branch line to Sheffield.

4. An Act for making a *Railway* from *Sheffield* to *Manchester* was obtained in 1837, and the line, which is 40 miles in length, is expected to be opened in 1842. After leaving Sheffield, the railway passes through Lord Wharncliffe's park and proceeds to Penistone, crossing afterwards the north-western corner of Derbyshire, and entering Cheshire near Staley Bridge. The principal engineering difficulties are the carrying of the railway over the Etherow and over Dinting Vale, near Glossop, and the tunnel at the summit level, which will be 3 miles long with a single line of rails: in every other part of the line there will be double rails. This railway will connect the eastern and western coasts from the mouths of the Humber to the Mersey; the Hull and Selby, Leeds and Selby, and Leeds and Manchester Railways forming another line between the eastern and western seas; and the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway being a third line for effecting a similar communication. The Sheffield and Manchester Railway will not afford many facilities to the Derbyshire tourist, but it will be of great importance to the country through which it passes, and while it facilitates the distribution

of groceries and colonial produce from Liverpool, it will enable the manufacturers of Sheffield and the neighbourhood to send their goods for shipment to the United States with the least possible delay. At present, owing to the nature of the country, the carriage of goods from or to Sheffield over the rugged and elevated roads of Derbyshire is both tedious and costly. The railway will pass within 9 or 10 miles of Chapel-en-le-Frith, and about 16 miles from Buxton, which places are in the midst of some of the most interesting parts of Derbyshire. The number of visitors to the latter place cannot fail to be increased by the additional facilities of communication which the railway presents to the towns of Manchester, Liverpool, and with Lancashire and the northern parts of Cheshire generally.

TURNPIKE ROADS.

1. The great road from London to Manchester, Carlisle, and Glasgow, passes through the county, entering Derbyshire at Cavendish Bridge, over the Trent, just above its junction with the Derwent: it runs north-west through Derby and Ashbourn, and quits the county at Hanging Bridge, over the Dove. Two other roads to Manchester branch off from that just described: one at Ashbourn, which runs N.N.W. through Buxton, and quits the county at Whaley Bridge; another at Derby, which runs through Matlock, Bakewell, and Chapel-en-le-Frith.

2. The road which connects Bristol and Birmingham with Sheffield and Leeds enters Derbyshire at Monk's Bridge, over the Dove, and runs northward by Derby, Chesterfield, and Dronfield, into Yorkshire.

3. The road from London to Sheffield and Leeds enters the eastern side of the county from Nottinghamshire, and runs to Chesterfield, where it unites with the road just mentioned.

4. A road from Sheffield to Manchester crosses the Peak through Hathersage, Castleton, and Chapel-en-le-Frith. There is likewise another road over the moors between these two places, which passes by Glossop; but though shorter, it is far less picturesque than the former road.

CANALS.

Derbyshire has several navigable canals as well as railroads: 1, The Grand Trunk, or the Trent and Mersey Canal; 2, the Erewash Canal; 3, the Derby Canal; 4, the Cromford Canal; 5, the Nutbrook Canal; and 6, the Chesterfield Canal. The Peak Forest and the Ashby-de-la-Zouch canals have a small portion of their extent just within the county, but rather belong, the former to Cheshire and the latter to Leicestershire. We shall not therefore notice them here.

1. The *Trent and Mersey Canal* belongs to Derbyshire from its commencement in the river Trent, at Wilden Ferry, (at the junction of the Derwent,) to Monk's Bridge, where the canal is carried for a mile and a

quarter over the flat meadows of the Dove Valley on an embankment thirteen feet high, with aqueduct bridges over the Dove and one or two other streams, containing 23 arches of from 12 to 15 feet span: 12 of these arches are over the main branch of the Dove. This canal was begun in 1766, and its whole extent is 93 miles. It extends through Derbyshire, Staffordshire, and Cheshire. Until the year 1785, men were employed in large gangs to draw the boats; now horses are universally used.

2. The *Erewash Canal* commences in the Trent, midway between the junction of the Derwent and that of the Erewash river, and runs northward along the valley of the Erewash, first on the west and then on the east side of that river, and terminates in the Cromford Canal at Langley Bridge: that part of its course which is on the east side of the Erewash belongs to Nottinghamshire. Its whole length is nearly eleven miles. It has aqueduct arches over the Nutbrook and the Erewash river. It serves for the importation of corn, malt, and timber, and for the export of coal, limestone, iron, lead, and marble and other stone.

3. The *Derby Canal* is described under the town of Derby.

4. The *Cromford Canal* commences in the Erewash Canal at Langley Bridge, and runs northward to the Codnor Park Iron Works, following the valley of the Erewash, and having the first part of its course on the east side of that river in Nottinghamshire,

and the latter part on the west side in Derbyshire. From Codnor it sends off a branch, two miles and a half or three miles long, along the valley of the Erewash, on the west or Derbyshire side of that river, to the village of Pinxton, while the main line of the canal turns westward to the valley of the Derwent, crossing the river Amber in its way; it then turns to the north-west and follows the valley of the Derwent, first on the east and then on the west side of that river, to Cromford Bridge, where it terminates: the length of the canal is 15 miles nearly. Between the valley of the Erewash and that of the Derwent this canal is carried through the higher ground by a tunnel more than a mile and a half long. The width of the canal in the tunnel is 9 feet at the surface of the water; the crown of the arch is 8 feet above the water. The tunnel is lined with brick, except where the perforated rock appeared capable of supporting itself. There are three aqueduct bridges on the line of this canal. One is over the Erewash; one, Bull Bridge aqueduct, which is over the Amber, is 600 feet long and 50 feet high; the third aqueduct is over the Derwent, at Wigwell, and is 600 feet long and 30 feet high; the span of the river arch is 80 feet. This canal is chiefly used for the conveyance of coals and coke; but lime and limestone, gritstone, ironstone, iron, lead, slate, timber, corn, &c., are carried on it. Besides the Pinxton cut already noticed, there is another small cut near the Derwent

aqueduct, and there are several short railways which enable the coal-works, &c., on its line to communicate with the canal. A railway from Mansfield communicates with the Pinxton branch, and the Cromford and High Peak Railway communicates with the main line of the canal near its termination at Cromford Bridge.

5. The *Nutbrook Canal* commences at the collieries at Shipley, on the right of the road from Derby to Mansfield, and runs S.S.E. $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles into the Erewash Canal. Several railroads lead from the neighbouring collieries to the Nutbrook Canal, the conveyance of coal being its chief object.

6. The *Chesterfield Canal* commences in the tideway of the Trent, below Gainsborough, and has the greater part of its course in Nottinghamshire, and a small part in Yorkshire. It enters Derbyshire from the latter county near the village of Killamarsh, in the valley of the Rother, and runs S.S.W. along that valley to Chesterfield. Its whole length is 46 miles, of which about 12 are in Derbyshire. In the Derbyshire part of the canal are two aqueduct bridges, one over a brook at Renishaw furnace, and one over the Doolee or Dawley, a branch of the Rother, near Staveley: many tramways communicate with it, and are intended to convey coal and iron from the collieries and iron-works thereabout. This canal was opened A.D. 1777; its object is the exportation of coal, lime, lead, and iron; and the importation of corn, timber, &c.

Having now introduced the reader within the county, we shall refer him to the following table for the relative distances of towns, and in the course

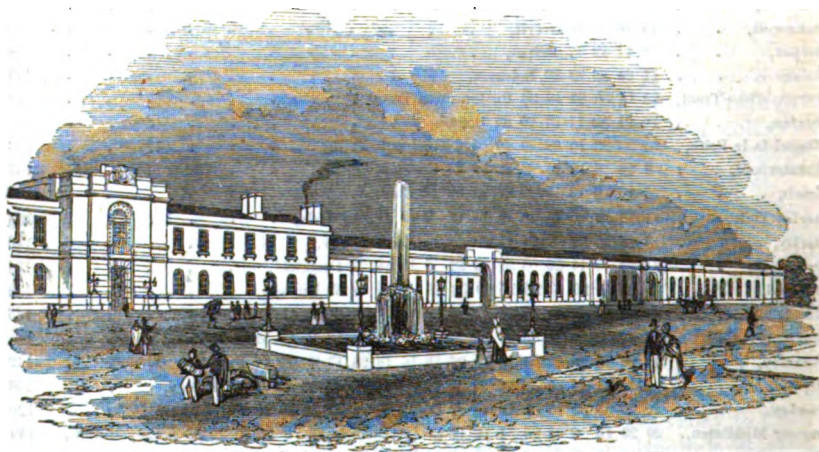
of the following chapters point out the most convenient or picturesque roads leading to them.

TABLE OF DISTANCES OF TOWNS FROM EACH OTHER IN THE COUNTY OF DERBY.

	Alfreton,	Distance from London	Miles	
Ashbourn,	17	Ashbourn,	139	
Ashover,	7 16	Ashover,	157	
Bakewell,	15 16 11	Bakewell,	153	
Belper,	8 11 12 17	Belper,	134	
Bolsover,	11 24 12 18 20	Bolsover,	146	
Burton-upon-Trent,	23 19 30 34 18 38	Burton-upon-Trent,	123	
Buxton,	26 21 22 11 27 29 35	Buxton,	159	
Chapel-in-le-Frith,	28 23 22 15 28 29 40 5	Chapel-in-le-Frith,	163	
Chesterfield,	9 22 8 12 15 6 32 22 23	Chesterfield,	147	
Crich,	5 13 9 13 5 20 26 24 28 12	Crich,	137	
Darley Dale,	11 13 6 5 14 20 29 14 19 9 9	Darley Dale,	150	
Derby,	13 13 20 24 8 24 11 30 25 24 12 19	Derby,	126	
Dronfield,	14 25 12 11 20 9 37 20 22 6 18 16 27	Dronfield,	154	
Duffield,	9 12 15 20 3 26 16 29 33 18 8 16 4 23	Duffield,	130	
Hope,	27 29 23 12 29 25 44 12 8 18 28 17 34 12 30	Hope,	165	
Matlock,	8 12 4 8 10 20 27 18 22 9 7 3 18 13 13 20	Matlock,	134	
Pleasley,	11 28 12 20 20 4 36 30 26 10 16 18 28 17 23 25 13	Pleasley,	142	
Ripley,	4 15 11 11 5 18 20 28 33 15 4 14 10 18 6 29 10 12	Ripley,	136	
Sawley,	22 23 25 33 15 30 22 40 28 21 28 9 30 13 36 25 24 19	Sawley,	120	
Stoney Middleton,	20 20 14 6 22 20 34 12 13 12 18 9 17 10 23 6 15 20 22 36	Stoney Middn.,	159	
Tideswell,	23 19 17 7 24 23 50 7 7 16 20 11 30 14 26 6 16 27 24 36 6	Tideswell,	160	
Winstar,	12 10 10 6 12 18 28 16 20 13 10 3 17 15 14 16 5 20 15 27 11 12	Winstar,	148	
Wirksworth,	8 9 6 10 6 22 22 19 24 14 5 7 13 16 9 23 4 17 9 22 16 16 5	Wirks,	139	

CHAPTER III.

THE DERBY RAILWAY STATION.



[Derby Station, North Midland Railway.]

The railway lines of communication between London and Derby have been pointed out in the preceding chapter; and whether the tourist travels by the Midland Counties Railway from Rugby, by the line from Birmingham, or by the North Midland Railway from Leeds, his journey will terminate at the same station. The Derby Station is indeed the most spacious and exten-

sive structure of the kind yet erected. The principal carriage shed is 450 feet long, and 140 wide, covering 9 separate tracks, and a portion of covered way 42 feet wide extends to the length of 1050 feet. The roofs are well lighted and are supported by 60 fluted columns of cast-iron, 22 feet high. The proprietors of the Midland Counties and Birmingham and Derby Junc-

tion Railways pay a rent of 6 per cent. to the North Midland Railway Company for the accommodation which the station affords. The area enclosed comprises 26 acres, and contains offices for the directors, booking-offices, waiting rooms, an hotel, carriage and engine sheds, and other conveniences. The chief building, which contains the booking and other offices, and the waiting and refreshment rooms, is 230 feet long and 3 stories in height. The engine-house is a polygon of 16 sides, and 134 feet in diameter, with a conical roof and lantern 50 feet high, and will contain above 30 engines. Sixteen lines of rails radiate from a turn-table in the centre, by which the engines are removed into any part of the building that may be convenient. The engine-house has wings, 160 to 180 feet long, in which there are workshops for the repair of carriages. It is evident that Derby will become a great central point in the railway communication of the country, and the directors of the three lines which form a junction at this town have therefore acted wisely in at once adopting a large scale for their operations. No stronger or more decisive proof could be adduced of the energy and enterprise of the country, and the confidence of capitalists in its continued advancement, than the station and works of which we have just given a brief description.

The town is about a mile south-east of the station, and there are omnibuses in waiting on the arrival of the trains,

which deposit passengers at the principal inns, the fare being 6d. We shall here give a brief notice of the town, and indicate the chief points of interest which it presents to the tourist, who will generally be disposed to make it one of the central points in his journey through the county.

DERBY, situated on the west bank of the river Derwent, a few miles above the junction of that river with the Trent, is 114 or 115 miles N.N.W. of London in a straight line, or 126 miles by the road from London to Manchester, through St. Albans, Dunstable, Stoney Stratford, Northampton, Market Harborough, Leicester, Mount Sorrel, and Loughborough. By railway, the distance from London is 131 miles; from Birmingham, 48½; Leeds, 72½; Sheffield, 45; Leicester, 29½; Nottingham, 15½ miles. Derby is in 52° 55' north latitude, and 1° 29' west longitude. The river Derwent was, several years since, made navigable from the town of Derby to its junction with the Derwent at Derby, a towing bridge being thrown across that river. From Derby the course of the canal is eastward until it joins the Erewash canal at Sandiacre. Over the Markeaton brook, which runs through Derby, the canal is carried in a cast-iron trough or aqueduct. From Derby a short branch of this canal extends to Little Eaton, 3 or 4 miles north of Derby, with two arms to the quarries on Little Eaton common. The Derby Canal is 44 feet wide at top and 24 feet wide at bottom, and 5

feet deep. Derby is supplied by this canal with coal, building-stone, gypsum, and other things.

Derby is situated in the southern and level part of the county, in the hundred of Morleston and Litchurch. It lies in an open valley, low, but not flat, and is surrounded by a pleasant undulating country. The soil in the valley is in general very good, and the land in the neighbourhood of the town is in a high state of cultivation. Water is plentiful, in fact too much so; for the floods caused by rains in the mountainous parts of the county, where the river has its source, have sometimes proved very destructive. The town is ancient, possibly British; there is no doubt that it took its name from that of the river Derwent, for which several etymologies have been devised. The name is common to several rivers in England, as in Cumberland, Durham, and York; and they may all be referred to the same British or Celtic root, 'dwr,' water. The Roman station Derventio, on the east bank of the river, opposite to Derby, is no doubt the British name Latinized. It does not appear that there was a Roman town on the spot where Derby now stands, though some habitations were most certainly there. Roman remains have been occasionally dug up, and in 1825 a tessellated pavement was found in making a foundation for a new house. The Ikniel Street passed close by the site of the town, on its way to Derventio, over the Derwent, which it crossed by a

bridge, the foundations of which, it is said, are yet existing, and may be felt in the bed of the river by an oar or a long pole.

Notwithstanding its antiquity, there are but few historical facts of importance connected with Derby. It came early into the possession of the Danes, being occupied by the Danish chief Halfden in the reign of Alfred. It remained in their power about 45 years, when Ethelfleda, a daughter of Alfred and wife of Ethelred, the Earl of Mercia, recovered possession of it, after a bloody battle within the town, from which the Danes were driven out with considerable slaughter. This was in the year 918; but the Saxon dominion was of short duration. The Danes soon returned in greater force, recovered the town, and retained it with little interruption so long as they held any power in England. This people knew it by the name of Deoraby, which, with a mere orthographical change, it still retains; while the Saxons, to whom it might be called a foreign town, gave it the uncouth appellation of Northworthige.

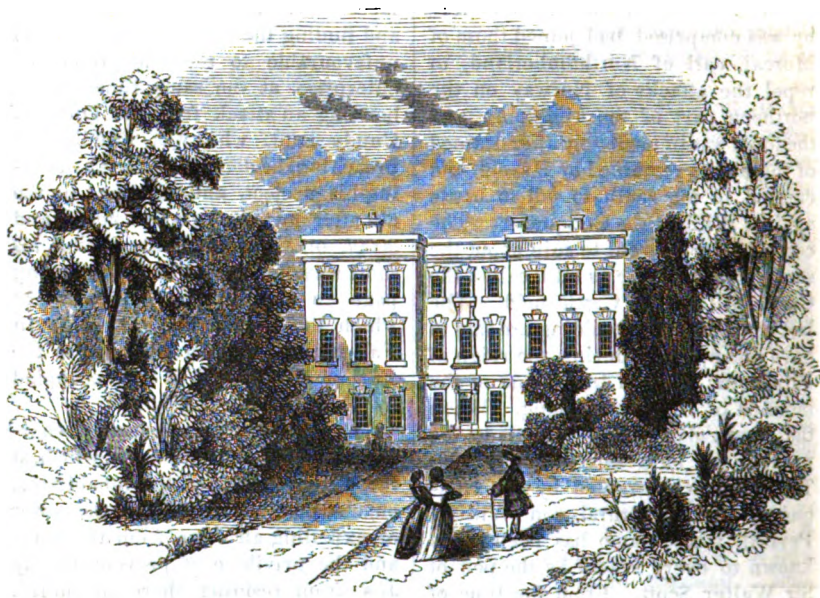
Derby attained considerable importance before the Norman conquest, and in the reign of Edward the Confessor it is stated in 'Domesday Book' to have contained 243 burgesses, besides 41 who occupied land adjoining to the town; but a very few years reduced the number to little more than a third of its former amount. This diminution is attributable to losses in war: the vassals of Edwin earl of Mercia,

in which division of the kingdom Derby was comprised, had joined those of Morcai, earl of Northumberland, to repel the attacks of Norway on the northern part of the kingdom; and the town was immediately after drained of those who remained by Harold, and carried to the south to fall in battle against William the Conqueror. The castle probably went to ruin about the same time: its site is still called the Castle-hill and the Castle-field. The last remains of the building are said to have disappeared during the reign of Elizabeth: Hutton traced one of the mounds of it 80 yards long. When the Domesday survey was made, the number of burgesses was only 100. The town was granted by the Conqueror to his natural son William Peveril, whose name has been made known to every reader by the pen of Sir Walter Scott. From the time of the Conquest no historical event of interest is connected with Derby for several centuries. King Charles I. marched through Derby soon after he set up his standard at Nottingham; but in the same year the town was garrisoned by the parliamentarians under Sir John Gell, and appears to have remained in the hands of that party through the war; the garrison however was removed in 1645. In 1745, the young Pretender, with his army, entered Derby on his march to dethrone the king of England. On this ill-concerted expedition the young prince with his small army reached the town on the evening of the 4th of

December. Here he called a council; and finding the opinions of his officers unfavourable to the success of the enterprise, at the same time apprehending an attack from the Duke of Cumberland, who was rapidly approaching, he determined on abandoning his project, and retreated on the 6th after levying between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.* on the inhabitants during his short stay. We give on the following page an engraving of the house at which the prince lodged: it is in Full-street, and then belonged to the Earl of Exeter, but is now occupied by W. E. Mousley, Esq.

The town has received many charters. Richard I. granted one, which, at the urgent prayer of the inhabitants, enacted that they should have the power of expelling all Jews from the town, and the privilege of preventing any Jew from residing there in future. King John, Henry VI., Edward VI., James I., and Charles I., each granted the town a charter, and two were granted by Charles II. The last charter of Charles II. was, up to the passing of the Municipal Reform Act, the governing charter; but Derby claimed to be a borough by prescription. Under the new Act, Derby is divided into 6 wards, and has 12 aldermen and 36 councillors. Derby returned burgesses to Parliament, 26 Edward I. (1294), and has continued to do so ever since.

Several religious foundations existed at Derby from an early period. A monastery of Augustine canons was



[The House in which the Pretender lodged at Derby.]

founded in the reign of Stephen, and soon after removed to Darley, about a mile farther up the river, where a few ruins may yet be seen. Darley Abbey, at the dissolution, was valued at 258*l.* net annual revenue. The abbot of that house founded a nunnery of the order of St. Benedict about the year 1160, which was granted at the suppression to the Earl of Shrewsbury. This foundation was erected at a spot still called Nun's Close, where ancient remains are occasionally found. A stone coffin, within two feet of the surface of the ground, containing the

skeleton of a female, was dug up on the site of the nunnery about 10 years ago. There was also an abbey of Dominicans, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in the 13th century,—a cell of Cluniac monks, subject to Bermondsey Abbey in Southwark, and two hospitals for lepers; but of all these no vestige remains.

The general appearance of the modern town is neat, but irregular; the streets are narrow, but most of the houses are good, and some of a superior description. They are mostly of red brick, and the public buildings of

stone. There are but few remains of the domestic architecture of our ancestors. In Babington Lane there is a house still standing in which Mary Queen of Scots slept on her journey from Winfield to Tutbury. The streets are well paved, and lighted with gas. The town extends nearly a mile in length along the Derwent, and is about half a mile broad. The Mark-eaton brook runs through the town to the Derwent, and is one cause of the floods, which have occasionally produced much damage to the town. Several small bridges cross the brook, and a handsome one of three elliptic arches traverses the Derwent. This bridge replaced the old and dangerous structure described by Hutton as very narrow, high, and difficult—dangerous to men, and fatiguing to horses. An attempt was made about a century and a-half ago, to get at the foundation of the old bridge by turning the course of the river, but in vain;—the river would not be controlled, and the project was abandoned: the piles remained visible for many years after, and might be seen in a clear day within the present century. Derby is well supplied with water from springs, and also by water-works from the river. It is conveyed from the Derwent by pipes leading to a reservoir on the top of St. Michael's church, whence it is distributed through the town. The river was made navigable in the beginning of the last century; but since the formation of branch canals to the Erewash and the Trent,

the navigation of the river has ceased. These branches are each $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles long.

The municipal and parliamentary limits of the borough of Derby coincide, and comprehend the whole of the two parishes of All Saints and St. Werburgh, and portions of the other three, namely, St. Michael's, St. Alkmund's, and St. Peter's. All that can properly be considered as the town of Derby is within the borough limits, which enclose an area of 1660 statute acres. Each of the five parishes has its own church: the one dedicated to St. Alkmund is the most ancient. St. Alkmund was the son of Alurid, King of Northumberland, and was killed in a contest to replace his father on the throne. His remains were interred in the church which now bears his name, and miracles were said to be wrought at his shrine. Little is to be said of the churches dedicated to St. Peter, St. Michael, and St. Werburgh. All Saints, formerly collegiate, is the "pride of Derby," and is ludicrously compared by Hutton to "a hen between her four chickens." The tower is very lofty, being nearly 180 feet in height; it is in the later English style, is much enriched towards the top, and is surmounted by four pinnacles. On a fillet round the tower is an inscription in old English characters, beginning with the words "young men and maidens," probably from the 148th psalm, a verse of which so begins. The remainder is so defaced as to be illegible, but the visible portion is interpreted by the good people of Derby to

import that the tower was built to the height of that inscription by the youths and maids of the town ; and in corroboration of the fact it is stated that the bachelors used to ring the bells whenever a young woman born in the town was married. The tower was built in the reign of Henry VIII., and is furnished with a peal of 10 bells and chimes. The body of the church was rebuilt, chiefly by voluntary subscription, in the years 1723, 1724, and 1725. It is unluckily in a style most incongruous with that of the tower, being of the Roman-Doric order, with circular arched windows, divided by double pilasters, and surmounted by a balustrade. It is 130 feet in length and 83 in breadth, and is divided by a handsome screen of iron into two portions. The western end only is appropriated to public worship ; the eastern division is subdivided into three parts, one of which is the vestry, a second the chancel, and the third is the burial-place of the Devonshire family, most of whom are interred in the church. The family vault received in March, 1810, the body of Henry Cavendish, of whom it was said by Sir Humphry Davy, that, "since the death of Sir Isaac Newton, England has sustained no scientific loss so great as that of Cavendish." A splendid monument was erected here to Elizabeth, the clever and selfish Countess of Shrewsbury, during her lifetime, and under her own inspection : she died in 1607, aged nearly 90 years.

Besides the above there are three

churches of recent erection : the church of St. John, in Bridge Street, a handsome Gothic building, but in an unfavourable situation ; Trinity Church, a handsome edifice on the London road ; and Christ Church, on the Normanton road, erected in memory of Bishop Rider, the late diocesan.

Steps have recently been taken for the formation of a general cemetery for the different parishes of the town, and proposals were made that it should consist of 10 acres, two-thirds of which were to be consecrated, and that the consecrated ground should be divided from the portion unconsecrated by a sunk fence. The present state of the churchyards renders it highly inexpedient to delay some such plan as the one proposed, and the disputes respecting the line of demarcation serve only to remind us of the somewhat coarse lines of a French poet, which administer a reproof too frequently required in the arrangement of affairs of this nature. The lines of *Pierre Patrix* have been thus translated :

I dreamt that, buried in my fellow clay,
Close by a common beggar's side I lay ;
But as so mean an object shock'd my pride,
Thus, like a corpse of consequence, I cried :
" Scoundrel, begone ! and henceforth touch me not ;
" More manners learn, and at a distance rot !"
" How, scoundrel !" with a haughtier tone cried he,
" Proud lump of earth, I scorn thy words and thee :
" Here all are equal : here thy lot is mine ;
" This is my rotting place, and that is thine !"

There are places of worship for different classes of dissenters, one each for Presbyterians, Independents, Particular Baptists, Quakers, Unitarians,

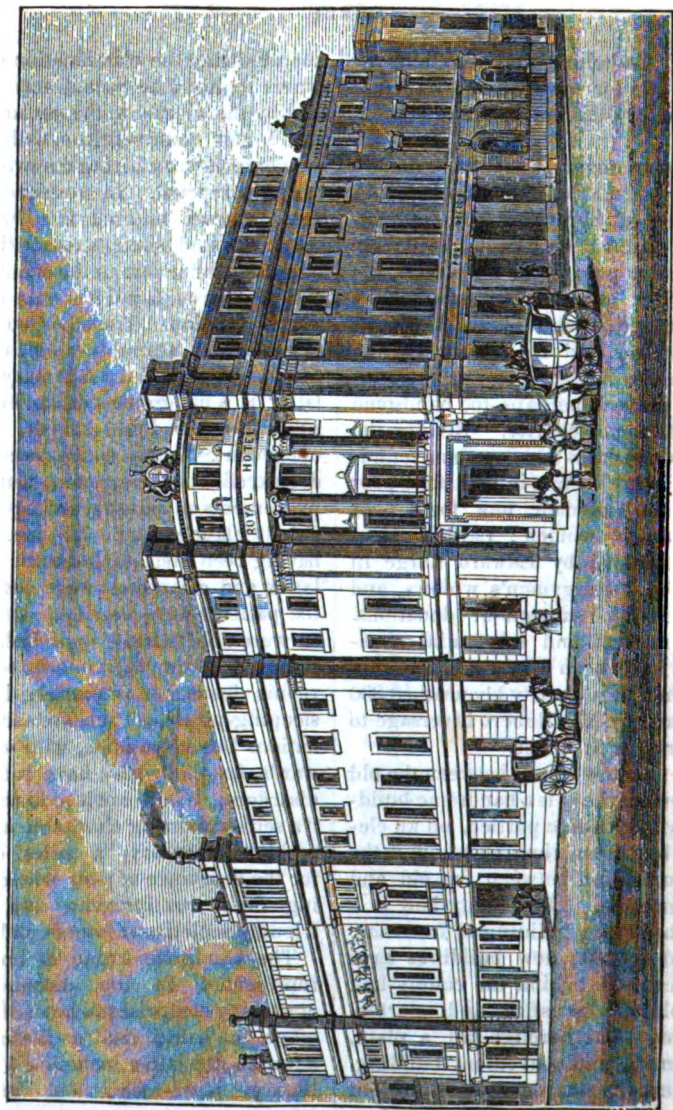
Roman Catholics, and Swedenborgians; two for the General Baptists, and five for different classes of Methodists.

There are several almshouses founded by charitable individuals. The Countess of Shrewsbury, mentioned above, founded an hospital for 8 poor men and 4 poor women; which, although in good repair, was rebuilt about 60 years ago by the Duke of Devonshire, and is now called the Devonshire Almshouse: the entrance to this place is perhaps too handsome for a house of charity. Besides the above almshouses there are those founded by Robert Wilmot in 1638, for 6 poor men and 4 women, now for 4 poor men and 4 women; Large's Hospital, founded by Edward Large in 1709, for 5 clergymen's widows, and enriched by subsequent donations. Thirteen neat and substantial almshouses have been lately erected from the funds of a charity bequeathed 300 years ago by Mr. Robert Liversage to the parish of St. Peter.

The new town-hall, between the old and new markets, is a handsome building, with an Ionic portico, on an elevated basement, through which is the communication between the old and new markets. The county-hall is a large but heavy building of freestone, erected in 1660; new buildings have been erected behind the county-hall for holding the assizes and quarter-sessions. The borough-jail, a plain, substantial, and convenient building, was formerly the county-prison, but

not admitting the classification of prisoners required by recent acts, it was sold by the county to the corporation, and a new county-prison, with every convenience for classing the prisoners, has been erected. In consequence of arrangements entered into between the county and borough authorities, the latter send offenders to the county-jail, and the borough-jail has been sold by the corporation. The other buildings are a theatre, assembly-room, mechanics' institute, and the infirmary. The latter is a handsome edifice, built by subscription, and cost 30,000*l*. It was opened in 1810, and has always been under excellent management, many improvements on the usual arrangements, chiefly planned by the late Mr. Strutt, having been first adopted here. Ventilation and cleanliness were enforced; the patients were classified, and such as were able to leave their beds were removed in the day-time to separate rooms, instead of remaining in their sleeping-wards. There are accommodations for 80 patients, with separate wards for those who have infectious disorders. There are also in the town "a self-supporting charitable and parochial dispensary," a ladies' charity for the assistance of poor women during their confinement, and many friendly societies or benefit clubs.

The handsome group of buildings represented in the accompanying engraving comprises an hotel, the post-office, a bank, and a literary institution, the latter including a public library, news-room, and museum.



New Buildings, Derby.]

They present two lines of façade, one of 98 feet, towards the corn-market; the other of 185 feet, towards the Brookside. The style of architecture is Grecian-Ionic, and the deep pannel occupying the entire length of the centre compartments is filled with sculpture representing a portion of the Panathenaic procession of the same size as the original.

Derby, in proportion to its size, has long maintained a fair literary and scientific rank. The novelist Richardson was born here. The Derby Philosophical Society for the Promotion of Scientific Knowledge was begun by Dr. Darwin in 1788: it still consists of many members, and possesses an extensive and valuable library, a collection of fossils, and mathematical and philosophical apparatus.

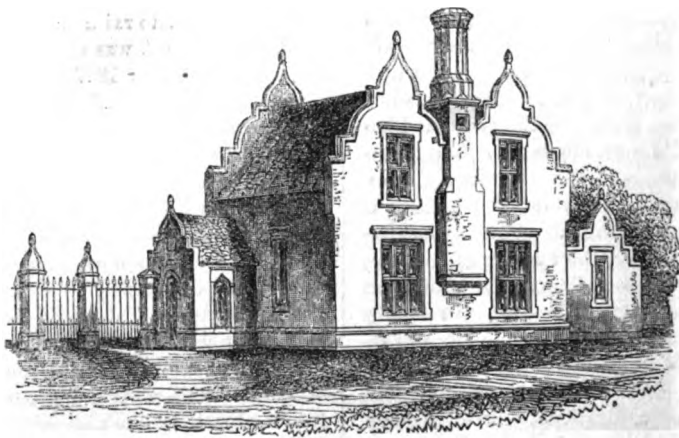
There are two newspapers published in the town, the "Derby Mercury," one of the oldest provincial journals in the kingdom, and the "Derby Reporter," established in 1822. A mechanics' institution was established in 1825, when 274 individuals gave their names as members. The institution is now in a flourishing state, the number of members being about 800. In December, 1839, the number of honorary members was 73, senior members 477, junior members 195: 14 females had availed themselves of the advantages of the institution. There are classes for reading, writing, and arithmetic, drawing, music, French, and chemistry, and a class meets weekly for the purposes of discussing

literary and scientific subjects. The library contains nearly 3000 volumes, which are classified with a view of forming a distinct division for juvenile members, and there is a museum and philosophical apparatus. The reading-room, a comfortable and spacious apartment, is open from an early hour in the morning to 10 at night: it is well lighted, good fires are kept, and the table is amply supplied with periodicals and newspapers. In 1832 spacious premises were purchased for the use of the institution for the sum of 1500*l.*, and its continued prosperity led to the erection of a lecture-hall, the first stone of which was laid in 1836 by Joseph Strutt, Esq., the president. It is an elegant and spacious room, in the Grecian style of architecture, 75 feet long by 40 wide, and 30 feet high, and, including the necessary fitting up, cost 2,000*l.*, to raise which sum a mortgage of 1600*l.* was effected. The hall was opened in 1837 by a public dinner, at which Lord Dunfermline, then speaker of the House of Commons, presided; and the Earl of Burlington, and many other eminent friends of education, were present. To pay off the incumbrance of 1600*l.* with which the institution was now burthened, it was resolved to open an exhibition, and the gentry and others of the town and neighbourhood were solicited for the loan of articles for this purpose; 400 individuals contributed 5,000 different objects, including paintings by eminent masters, sculpture, porcelain of Derby and foreign manufacture,

models of various kinds, specimens in ornithology, entomology, mineralogy, and geology, and an extensive collection of curiosities. The managers wisely effected an insurance for 15,000*l.* on the property thus liberally committed to their charge. The admission was fixed at 6*d.*, and tickets for the 18 weeks during which the exhibition was open were sold for 2*s.* 6*d.* ; 6000 catalogues were sold at 6*d.* each. Including the holders of season tickets, the number of persons who visited the exhibition was 96,000, and the total receipts amounted to 2,119*l.* : the expenses being 763*l.*, there remained a sum of 1,355*l.* to be applied to the liquidation of the debt. The inmates of the almshouses, and of the Union poor-house, and the police and military, were admitted gratuitously ; and the child-

ren belonging to the Sunday and charity schools of the town and neighbourhood on payment of 2*d.* each.

Through the noble munificence of Joseph Strutt, Esq., the working classes of Derby have opportunities of enjoyment and gratification which perhaps no other town in the kingdom affords. This excellent and enlightened man, observing the rapid increase of the population of Derby, and that while measures had been from time to time adopted for promoting their convenience, good order, and instruction, there existed no means by which the inhabitants with their families could take exercise and recreation in the fresh air in public walks and grounds devoted to that purpose, appropriated nearly 11 acres of land to be laid out in the most advantageous manner, and to comprise



[Lodge of the Arboretum : the Entrance Gates.]

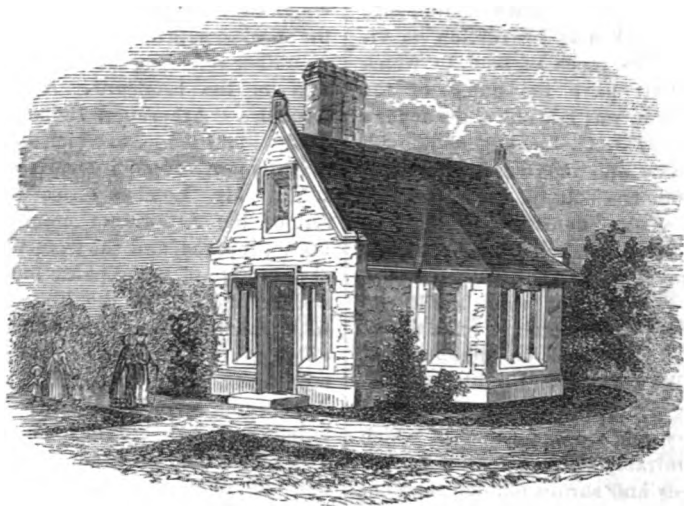
an extensive collection of trees and shrubs arranged in such a manner as to offer the means of instruction to visitors. This piece of land, to which Mr. Strutt gave the name of the Arboretum, was laid out at the donor's expense by J. C. Loudon, Esq., with great taste and judgment. Upwards of 1,000 trees have been planted, beside several thousand evergreens, which form the belt of the gardens. The gravel walks are 6,070 feet in extent. The principal walks are 15 feet wide, and the secondary ones 8 feet wide. The grounds on either side of the walks are thrown up into mounds, varying from 6 to 10 feet in height; the easy and elegant forms of which are admirably adapted for exhibiting the trees and shrubs planted thereon. Two lodges have been erected from designs furnished by Mr. Lamb, of London; that at the principal entrance is situate at the northern extremity of the gardens, and is of the Elizabethan order; and the one at the southern end of the gardens is of the Tudor architecture. Rooms for the use of the public are appropriated in each lodge, and have been furnished in a very neat and substantial manner at Mr. Strutt's expense. Mr. Loudon has prepared a catalogue of the trees, shrubs, and plants for the use of visitors, which is at once scientific, poetical, and anecdotal.* By the side of each plant a neat

brick tally is fixed, the upper part of which exhibits under a glass covering the species, with other particulars, and a number referring to a fuller description in the catalogue. A copy of Loudon's "Arboretum Britannicum" is kept in the lodge, to which those who desire more ample information may refer. Mr. Loudon states that the soil of the Arboretum might have been prepared, and the trees planted, at one-tenth of the expense incurred; and this fact shows the liberal spirit with which Mr. Strutt has carried into effect every plan connected with his munificent gift. The value of the Arboretum, including the ground and buildings, is estimated at 10,000*l*. The duty of keeping the grounds in order devolves upon the public, Mr. Strutt wisely conceiving that those who will enjoy and profit by the Arboretum will take an interest in its permanence.

The Arboretum was opened on the 16th of September, 1840, and the event was celebrated by demonstrations in which every class of the inhabitants of Derby took a part. The day was a universal holiday, and processions, extending nearly a mile in length, were formed by the different Trades' Socie-

* "The Derby Arboretum: containing a Catalogue of the Trees and Shrubs included in it; a Description of the Grounds and Directions for their Management; a Copy of the Address delivered when

it was presented to the Town Council of Derby by its founder, Joseph Strutt, Esq.; and an Account of the Ceremonies which took place when it was opened to the public on September 16th, 1840." By J. C. Loudon, F.L.S., H.S. &c. Author of the 'Arboretum Britannicum,' &c. &c. This very useful guide, price 1*s*., is sold, for the benefit of the Arboretum, by the Curator.

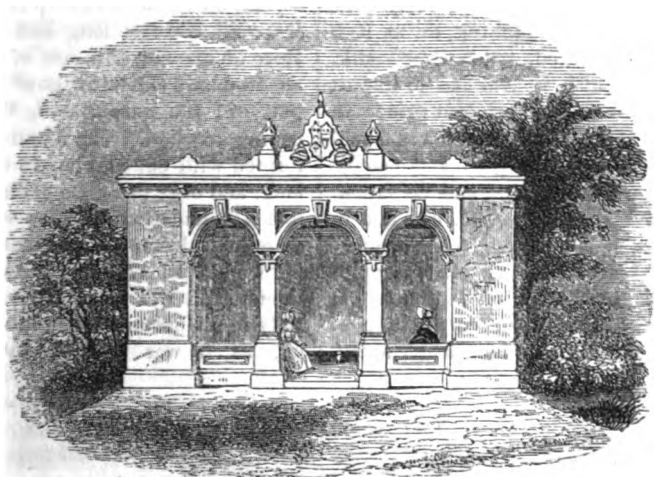


[Lodge of the Arboretum, showing the public Room.]

ties and public bodies accompanied by banners, streamers, and music. On this day 6,000 persons were assembled in the Arboretum, many of whom were young and full of animal spirits, but not a single shrub or plant was injured. Dancing, in which large numbers participated, was enjoyed in a field near the Arboretum to the music of a well-appointed band. A ball took place at night in the lecture-room of the Mechanics' Institution, and there were seldom less than 200 couples dancing at the same time. Two days afterwards the opening of the Arboretum was celebrated by the children, and several thousands were admitted to the

gardens. An adjacent field was set apart for dancing and games of various kinds, and tea was provided in a large pavilion.

The Arboretum is to be "open to all classes of the public without payment (and subject only to such restrictions and regulations as may be found necessary for the observance of order and decorum) on every Sunday, and also on one other day in every week, from sunrise to sunset; except that it shall never be open earlier than 6 o'clock in the morning, nor later than 9 in the evening, and that it shall be closed between 10 and 1 o'clock on Sundays." It is under the management



[One of the Pavilions forming the Terminations to the Cross Walks : style of James I.]

of the mayor for the time being and 6 other gentlemen, 4 of whom must be members of the Town Council.

The Derby grammar-school is supposed to be one of the most ancient foundations of the sort in the kingdom. It was founded in the reign of Henry II., and is free for sons of burgesses only. Flamsteed, the astronomer, received his early education in this school. The income is stated by the Charity Commissioners to amount to 3*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*, and the number of free scholars at the time of the inquiry to be generally about 2 ; but it is again getting into repute. In 1833 there were 26 day-schools in the town, at which instruction was given to about 1,400 children of both sexes. Of this number 2 were on the " national

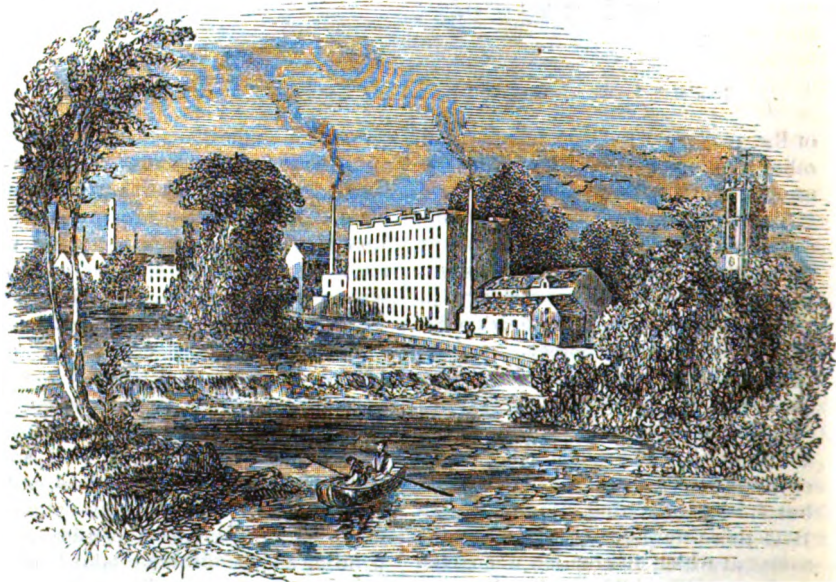
system," 1 on the Lancasterian system, and 3 were infant-schools. The number of Sunday-schools was 24, and in these 3,198 children were instructed. Lending libraries were attached to some of the Sunday-schools ; and in several writing and arithmetic were taught on the week-day evenings.

The principal manufactures of Derby are silk and cotton goods, porcelain, jewellery, and ornamental articles made of the various kinds of spar found in the county, red and white lead, lead-pipe, sheet-lead, cast-iron, ribbed stockings, bobbin-net, and other lace. There is a considerable printing and publishing establishment, and several printing-offices.

In the early part of the eighteenth-

century the Italians exclusively possessed the art of spinning, or, as it is technically called, "throwing" silk, and the British weaver had to import thrown silk at an exorbitant price. In 1702 a Mr. Crochet erected a small silk-mill; but his capital and machinery were insufficient, and he failed. In 1717 Mr. John Lombe, who had in disguise, and by bribing the workmen, obtained access to the machinery of the silk-throwsters of Piedmont in Italy, agreed with the corporation of Derby to rent, on a long lease, for 8*l.*

a-year, an island or swamp in the river Derwent, 500 feet long and 52 wide. Here he erected, at a cost of 30,000*l.*, an immense silk-mill, now the property of the corporation, the lease having expired. The foundation was formed with oaken piles 16 to 20 feet long, and over this mass of timber was laid a foundation of stone on which were turned stone arches that support the walls. In 1718 Lombe took out a patent, and was proceeding successfully in his business when he died, cut off, as it was thought, by poison,



[Sir Thomas Lombe's Silk-mill: Derby.]

through the agency of an Italian woman, employed by the Italian manufacturers whose business he had drawn away to himself. He was succeeded in his mill by his brother William, and afterwards by his cousin Sir Thomas Lombe. The accounts of the machinery of this immense mill have been much exaggerated: the wheels have been said to amount to 26,000; Hutton's authority is the best, for he served his apprenticeship of 7 years in the mill, and he reduces these wheels to 13,384. The whole was moved by one water-wheel. Many throwing-mills have since been erected at Derby, and this branch of industry may be regarded as the staple of the town; but the old mill must continue to be regarded with peculiar interest, as the first establishment of the kind erected in this country. The cotton manufacture is of later introduction and of smaller extent: it was in this town that Arkwright first succeeded in weaving calicoes in 1773. There are many stocking-frames at Derby, the manufacture having been introduced about the time that Lombe erected his silk-mill. The manufacture of porcelain was introduced a century ago; and the articles, both in design and execution, have been carried to a high pitch of excellence: the making of figures and ornaments in what is termed "biscuit ware" was for some time peculiar to this town, and we believe is so still. The spars of the county, especially the fluor spar or

"blue John," are wrought into vases and other ornaments, and the black marble of Ashford into vases, columns, chimney-pieces, &c. These spar and marble-works were for some time carried on in the building erected by Crochet in the year 1702 for his silk throwing-mill; the turning-lathes were set in motion by a water-wheel.

The population of Derby in 1831 was 23,607; in 1821 it was 17,423; and in 1811, 13,043, being an increase of 35 per cent. in 10 years, and of nearly 81 per cent. in 20 years; an extraordinary advance, as the number of inhabitants for some centuries had been stated at pretty nearly 8,000, without much variation. We shall not be far wrong in estimating the present population at 30,000.

Derby returns two members to parliament. The number of parliamentary electors registered in 1832 was 1384, viz.: 372 freemen, and 1012 ten-pound occupiers. In 1839-40 the number of borough electors was 1820, of whom 1370 were occupiers of houses rated at 10*l.* and upwards, 445 freemen, and 111 possessed of joint qualifications, including all who were registered for more than one qualification. Derby is also the chief place of election, and one of the polling stations for the southern division of Derbyshire. The assizes for the county are held here, and the Epiphany, Easter, and Michaelmas sessions; the Midsummer sessions are held at Chesterfield. The borough

sessions of the peace are held quarterly before the Recorder; a petty sessions is held daily. There are courts of Record and of Requests for the borough. The principal market is on

Friday. A cattle market is held once a fortnight on Tuesday. There are nine fairs in the year for cattle, cheese, pedlery, &c., which are, for the most part, well attended.

CHAPTER IV.

EXCURSIONS IN THE VICINITY OF DERBY.

BEFORE leaving Derby, it may be useful to point out the roads which connect it with the other parts of the county.

To Derby from the South.

1. The Midland Counties Railway from Rugby. 2. The railway from Birmingham to Derby. 3. The high road from London to Manchester, through Loughborough, which crosses the Trent and enters Derbyshire about 7 miles from Derby, passing through Shardlow and Elvaston. 4. The great road connecting the west and east of England, and the towns of Birmingham and Sheffield, passes through Lichfield and Burton-upon-Trent, crosses the Grand Trunk Canal, and the river Dove, and enters Derbyshire 8 miles from Derby, proceeding through Little Over: part of this road was the ancient Ryknield Street. 5. The road from Ashby-de-la-Zouch and the adjacent parts of Leicestershire enters Derbyshire about 15 miles from the county town, and after crossing the Trent, passes through Swarkstone and Osmaston. The bridge over the Trent at Swarkstone is of great length. The span of the river is 138 yards, but it

being necessary to carry the bridge over the low grounds, its total length is 1304 yards.

From Derby, Northward.

1. The North Midland Railway to Leeds by Belper, Amber Gate, and Chesterfield. Amber Gate, 10½ miles from Derby, is the key to Matlock and the valley of the Derwent. 2. The railway from Derby to Nottingham. 3. The turnpike road to Nottingham, 16 miles, passes through Chaddesden, Borrowash, Risley, and Sandiacre, and enters Nottinghamshire after crossing the Erewash Canal and the river of the same name, about 10 miles from Derby. 4. The road to Uttoxeter, 16 miles, passes through Mickleover, Etwall, Hilton, Sudbury, and Dove-ridge, crossing the Dove and entering Staffordshire about 1½ mile north-west of Uttoxeter. 5. To Ashbourn and Buxton. The road from Derby to the former town passes through Mackworth, King's Langley, and Brailsford. Two miles from Ashbourn, a branch of this road crosses the Dove and enters Staffordshire, passing through Leek, Macclesfield, and Stockport, to Manchester; another branch

proceeding to Buxton. 6. To Chesterfield and Sheffield through Allestree and Duffield; and another road to the same places through Alfreton. 7. To Mansfield, 22 miles, through Little Chester, Morley, Smalley, and Heanor, the road crossing the Erewash about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the latter place, where it enters the county of Nottingham midway between Derby and Mansfield.

We are now prepared to take our departure from Derby, and to visit places of interest in its neighbourhood, whatever may be the direction in which they are to be found. The railways running on each side of the county south of Derby will afford facilities for reaching the whole of that part of Derbyshire; and the railway to Nottingham is equally available for places to the eastward.

To proceed to the western side of South Derbyshire, we take our places in a train on the Derby and Birmingham Railway. The hamlet of Osmaston, which is in the parish of St. Werburgh, Derby, is visible on the right about half a mile after leaving the station. Osmaston Hall, the residence of Mr. Fox, of Derby, was formerly the seat of the Wilmot family, and was erected at the end of the seventeenth century: the north front is 217 feet in length. The village of Little Chester, in the parish of St. Alkmund's, Derby, is next visible on the left. It is the site of the Roman station *Derwentio*, and numerous remains of that people have been discovered in the

vicinity. The church spire of Nor-manton is visible on the right, and the valley of the Dove soon opens upon the view. Passing the Trent and Mersey Canal by an oblique iron bridge, the village of Findern appears on the right, soon after which we reach the *Willington Station*, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Derby. Here we may alight, and shall find several places in the vicinity worthy of a visit.

The railway, the river Trent, the Trent and Mersey Canal, and the Derby road intersect the village, the railway dividing it into two equal portions. The latter is here carried along an embankment which overlooks the village, to which we descend by a flight of steps. Willington church is an ancient structure dedicated to St. Michael.

On the left of the station, about a mile distant, is the village of Repton, situated on a declivity overlooking the Trent, and near a small stream which flows into the Trent. It is one of the most ancient places in the county, and is supposed to have been the Roman station *Rebandunum*. There was a nunnery here before the seventh century, at which many of the Mercian kings were interred, but the institution was destroyed by the Danes; and after the Conquest a priory of black canons was established on its site. Repton, with the adjacent village of Gresley give their names to the hundred. The church is dedicated to St. Wyston, and is remarkable for its elegant spire, 188 feet high. The chancel is more

ancient than the other parts of the building, and underneath is a crypt supported by Saxon pillars, and containing vaults for the sepulture of saints or other eminent persons. The nave and aisles appear from their style to have been built in the fourteenth century. After the Reformation the priory and its possessions passed into lay hands, and the priory church was pulled down in the reign of Mary, under the apprehension that "if the nest were not destroyed, the birds might settle there again." The foundations of the priory buildings may be traced in various directions, and the refectory is now used for the grammar school. This school was founded and richly endowed by Sir John Porte in 1556, and at the same time he charged his estates with the support of an hospital at Etwall. The rental of these estates now amounts to 2500*l.* a-year, and the school, in which several eminent men have received their education, is in high repute. The Marquis of Hastings and the Earl of Chesterfield are hereditary governors, and in conjunction with others elect the master and under-masters.

Foremark Hall, the seat of Sir Francis Burdett, is about 3 miles to the left of the station and about 2½ miles east of Repton on the banks of the Trent. It was erected about the year 1760 by Sir Robert Burdett, on the site of a more ancient mansion, and is a spacious and handsome edifice, with a double flight of steps on the north and south fronts. The scenery is di-

versified by gentle eminences, which gradually subside into rich meadows on approaching the banks of the Trent. The estate of Foremark came into the possession of the present family by marriage in 1607. In a direction north-east of the mansion, about a quarter of a mile distant, the tame scenery of the low meadows is broken by an outlying mass of grit-stone rock. Knowle Hills, which are well wooded, afford some pleasing views of the adjacent country and the windings of the Trent. The village of Foremark, with its small parish church, is situated near the mansion.

Melbourne Hall, the seat of Viscount Melbourne, is about 3 miles east of Foremark, the road from Ashby-de-la-Zouch to Derby running midway between the two places. Melbourne has been but rarely occupied by its noble owners, their principal country residence being Bocket Hall, Herts. The church is a fine specimen of the Norman architecture of the twelfth century, and contains several monuments of the family of Lamb, and a curious font resembling a basin with four legs. The living is in the gift of the bishops of Carlisle, who had formerly a palace here. Forty years ago, the remains of the ancient castle were still visible: it was dismantled about the middle of the fifteenth century, but Leland speaks of it as being in tolerable repair in his time, a century later. The parish of Melbourne contained in 1831 a population exceeding 2000. There are places of worship

for the Baptists, Independents, Wesleyan Methodists, and the sect called Jerusalemites.

Donnington Park, the seat of the Marquis of Hastings, is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-east of Melbourne; but as it is principally situated in Leicestershire, a description of it will be given in another volume.

From Melbourne Hall we may proceed to Calke Abbey, less than 2 miles distant. This is a spacious mansion, enclosing a quadrangular court, and is the residence of Sir George Crewe. A convent of Augustine canons was founded here in the twelfth century. A branch of the Leicester and Swanington Railway is carried along the eastern side of Calke Park, and terminates at the village of Ticknall, in the vicinity of which there are extensive lime-works. This railway is used chiefly for the distribution of limestone and coal.

From Calke Abbey to Bradby Park, the seat of the Earl of Chesterfield, is about 4 miles. Here stood a fine old mansion with gardens, terraces, statues, and fountains in the style of Versailles, which was pulled down by the late earl between 60 and 70 years ago. The present house was built at the beginning of this century. The house is shown to visitors. The road from Ashby to Burton-upon-Trent bounds the park on the south; and the latter place is only 3 miles distant. At Burton we may again take the railway, either to return to Derby or to proceed to the next station, at

Walton-on-Trent, about 4 miles from Burton.

We must, however, again visit the Willington Station, for the purpose of noticing several places on the right, having in the excursion just completed confined ourselves to the country on the left of the railway. The first village which we reach is Eggington, about 2 miles from the Willington Station. In 1644 the Royalists and Parliamentarians fought on Eggington Heath, when the latter, it is said, were defeated and driven across the Trent. Eggington Hall is the seat of the Every family.

About $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Eggington is the road from Derby to Uttoxeter, which we join at Hilton, 7 miles from Derby. From this point the road is parallel to the course of the river Dove, which is on the right. We pass the villages of Marston and Scropton, situated on the banks of the Dove. Between these two places there is a road branching off to Tutbury, on the opposite side of the Dove, in Staffordshire, soon after which we reach Sudbury, the seat of Lord Vernon. The manor was held for four centuries by the Montgomery family, and in the reign of Henry VIII. it passed by marriage to Sir John Vernon, son of Sir Henry Vernon, of Haddon Hall. The mansion was built at the commencement of the seventeenth century, and is a well-proportioned edifice of red brick with two wings. Some of the apartments are handsome, and a gallery runs through the house.

The church of Sudbury stands within the grounds, and is a very picturesque object, being luxuriantly mantled with ivy. It contains many monuments of the Vernons. Sudbury Hall is occupied by the Queen Dowager, who has taken it for a short period during Lord Vernon's absence abroad. Leaving Sudbury we reach the village of Doveridge, about 2 miles distant, and soon afterwards, crossing the river Dove, enter Staffordshire; Uttoxeter is little more than a mile from the edge of the county.

Starting from the railway station at Willington, we proceed to Burton-upon-Trent, passing on the left the village of Newton Solney, and the mansion of Newton Park, which is in the castellated style. Near this place, a little to the left of the railway, the Dove flows into the Trent. The station at Burton, as before stated, is not more than 3 miles from Bradby Park, but having already visited that place we pass on to the *Walton-upon-Trent Station*, 4 miles from Burton. There is a bridge across the Trent at the village of Walton. Walton Hall is the residence of one of the Gisborne family, Drakelow Hall, the seat of the Greeley family, situated on the banks of the Trent, is within 3 miles of the station, which is the key to the remaining portion of the county; which, however, contains nothing particularly requiring notice.

Should the tourist be disposed to visit that part of the county east of Derby, the railway to Nottingham

will afford him every facility, as the stations are at short distances from each other. Starting from the great central station at Derby, the village of Chaddesden is passed on the left, and we reach in a few minutes the *Spondon Station*, which is only 4 miles from Derby. A church existed here before the Conquest, and there is an ancient tombstone in the churchyard, supposed to be Saxon. The present edifice is an interesting specimen of the style of the fourteenth century. The village is very pleasantly situated, and commands a fine view of the vale of Derwent. Dale Abbey is about 3 miles from the station on the left; it was originally founded in the reign of Henry II., and re-founded in 1204 for Premonstratensian canons, and at the dissolution had a clear yearly revenue of 144*l*.; the only existing remains of the building are the arch of the east window of the church, and some portions are to be seen in the house and out-buildings, which occupy the site of the abbey buildings. On the right of the Spondon Station is the village of Alvaston, situated on the Derwent.

The *Borrowash Station* is but a short distance from the one at Spondon. Elvaston Castle, the seat of the Earl of Harrington, about one mile to the right, has been recently built in the Gothic style. The church contains monuments to the Stanhope family: a costly monument to the memory of Sir John Stanhope, who died in 1610, was destroyed in 1643 by the Parliamentarians. Sir John Gell, at whose

instigation this outrage is stated to have been committed, afterwards married Sir John Stanhope's widow. In the village of Ockbrook, 1 mile from Borrowash, the Moravians have a large establishment. Hopwell Hall, occupying a commanding eminence, which affords some good views of the adjacent country, is to the right of Ockbrook.

The *Sawley Station* is the next on the line, and is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Derby. The village, which is about a mile from the station on the right, had formerly a market, granted to it by Bishop Long Espée in 1258, and a fair for three days at Michaelmas. The *Long Eaton Station* is $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Derby, and $6\frac{1}{2}$ from Nottingham. Near this place the railway assumes a triangular form, the base being a continuation of the line between Derby and Nottingham, the trains from each place entering the main line to Leicester and Rugby by the sides of the triangle. Soon after leaving the Long Eaton Station, we cross the river Erewash, and enter Nottinghamshire, there being one intervening station, at Beeston, between this point and Nottingham.

The road from Derby to Mansfield passes through the village of Morley. The church, which was erected about the close of the fourteenth century, has some painted windows which are said to have been removed from Dale Abbey, and it also contains several good monuments. The Earl of Morley takes his title from the village. Heanor, formerly a market-town, is situ-

ated on the same road near the borders of Nottinghamshire. The parish is extensive, and contains the townships of Heanor, Codnor, and Losco, Shipley, and Codnor Castle and Park Liberty, the latter being extra-parochial. The population of the parish was 5,380 in 1831. Heanor is well situated for trade, the Erewash Canal passing through the parish, and the neighbouring district having many coal-pits. There are manufactories for cotton goods, hosiery, and bobbin-net lace. The education returns for 1833 comprehended 12 day-schools and 5 Sunday-schools. There are Independent, Particular Baptist, and Wesleyan Methodist meeting-houses in the parish.

At the distance of between 8 and 4 miles from Heanor is Ilkeston, situated on a cross-road in the valley of the Erewash. The parish contains a population of 4446, a considerable portion of whom are engaged in manufactures or in the coal-pits in the neighbourhood. The church has a stone screen in the early English style of architecture, and three stalls in the chancel. The principal manufactures are of stockings and lace. A warm mineral spring, the properties of which are said to differ from those of all others in the kingdom, and to resemble those of the Seltzer water, has been lately discovered and is coming rapidly into repute. The water taken internally, and the baths, have been found efficacious in many complaints. The Erewash and Nutbrook canals both pass through the parish.

Kedleston, the magnificent seat of Lord Scarsdale, is about 4 miles from Derby, on the road to Winster and Wirksworth. The house is situated on a gentle declivity, and consists of a centre and two wings connected by corridors of the Doric order, the length of the whole being 360 feet. A double flight of steps leads to a grand portico supported by six Corinthian columns, 38 feet high and 3 feet in diameter. Over the pediment are statues of Venus, Bacchus, and Ceres; and within the portico are several other statues. The south or garden front is after the arch of Constantine at Rome. The ordinary entrance for visitors, beneath the portico at the basement or rustic story, opens into a spacious apartment called Cæsar's Hall, containing busts of the Cæsars. The visitor passes from it to the Grand Hall, the most magnificent part of the house, in the style of the Greek halls, and which is 67 feet by 42 feet. It is lighted by 3 sky-lights and supported by 20 columns of alabaster, variegated with red, 25 feet high, and surmounted by capitals of white marble. The materials for these columns are from the quarries at Elvaston. There are 12 niches in the hall, each containing casts from the antique, and above them are a series of chiaro-oscuro paintings, the subjects of which are taken from Homer. The other principal rooms shown to visitors are the Music Room, 36 feet by 24, and 22 feet high; the Drawing Room, 44 feet by 28, and 28 feet high; the Library, 36 feet by 24, and 22 feet high; the Saloon, a very

magnificent circular apartment, 42 feet in diameter, 24 feet to the cornice, 55 feet to the top of the cupola, and 62 feet to the extremity of the sky-light in the dome. There is a noble kitchen in the western pavilion 48 feet by 24, over the chimney-piece of which we may read the excellent maxim,—“Waste not, want not.” The private apartments are in the eastern wing. We have not space to enumerate the numerous splendid works of art which the visitor will have the gratification of viewing in the public apartments, but must be content with stating that amongst them are the productions of upwards of thirty of the most distinguished masters of the Italian, Flemish, Spanish, French, and English schools of art. Hutton remarks, in his “History of Derby,” that “perhaps 200,000*l.* lie under this spacious roof, consequently Lord Scarsdale sits at the rent of 10,000*l.* a year,” and this sum he calculated was at that time (1791) equal to two-thirds of the rental of all the houses in Derby.

The park lodge is from the arch of Octavia, and the grounds, which are very extensive, being 5 miles in circumference, contain flourishing plantations and much fine timber. There is a neat building in the park erected over a mineral spring which is regarded very efficacious in scorbutic diseases. The temperature of the spring is about 47°. The church contains numerous monuments of the Curzon family; amongst others is one by Rysbach, of Sir Nathaniel Curzon.

CHAPTER V.

EXCURSION ON THE NORTH MIDLAND RAILWAY.*

THE North Midland Railway, as we have before observed, is by far the most important line of communication in Derbyshire, and we shall now notice the places through which it passes, and the roads by which other places at a distance from the railway are connected with it. In April, 1841, several new stations were appointed on the line, and they are now so numerous as to afford the greatest facility to the tourist.

Soon after leaving the station at Derby we cross the canal and the river Derwent, and pass along the valley through the parishes of Breadsall and Allestree. The views soon become picturesque, the hills on either side of the valley swelling into eminences of considerable height. Again crossing the Derwent, the village of DUFFIELD is next seen, the railway passing near the church, which is on the right. The

DUFFIELD STATION

is $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Derby. Robert de Ferrers, the second earl of Derby, having rebelled, his castle at Duffield was demolished by Edward II. in 1325. The Derwent is again crossed after leaving Duffield, and soon after passing the village of Milford, where the

Messrs. Strutt have erected cotton mills, we pass through the Milford tunnel, about half a mile long, and once more crossing the Derwent we reach the

BELPER STATION.

Belper is on the east bank of the Derwent, 8 miles north of Derby. It is a township and chapelry in the parish of Duffield, in Appletree hundred. The prosperity of Belper is of modern date, and is to be principally ascribed to the cotton-works of Messrs. Strutt, in whose establishments the capabilities of the factory system to sustain a population in a high state of health and superior elevation of character are fully demonstrated. These mills were visited in 1832 by Her Majesty and the Duchess of Kent. Belper is now one of the most flourishing towns in Derbyshire. The older buildings form a very insignificant portion of the place, which consists chiefly of more modern and better erections. New buildings with neat exteriors, flower-gardens, orchards, and plantations are fast spreading over the rising grounds about the town; and on the opposite side of the Derwent is Bridge Hill, the seat of G. B. Strutt,

* The table of distances on the line is given at p. 26.

Esq. Gritstone, which the neighbourhood furnishes of excellent quality, is much used in building. The ancient chapel, dedicated to St. John, being too small for the increased population of the place, a new church has been erected at an expense of nearly 12,000*l.*, defrayed partly by subscription and partly by a grant from the commissioners for building new churches. It stands on a bold elevation above the town, and from its situation and architecture, which is of the florid English style, is a great ornament to the place. It will accommodate 1500 persons, besides 300 children; and two-thirds of the sittings are free. The ancient chapel is still used for evening lectures and for a school-room. There are places of worship for Unitarians (built in 1782, chiefly at the expense of Messrs. Strutt), Independents, General and Particular Baptists, and Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists. There is a stone bridge of three arches over the Derwent, near which the river being dammed by a pier assumes the appearance of a lake. The population of the chapelry of Belper in 1831 was 7890; half the males above 20 years of age are employed in manufactures. The chief establishments are those of Messrs. Strutt, who have four cotton-mills; and of Messrs. Ward, Brettle, and Ward, the most extensive hosiery manufacturers in the kingdom: they make both silk and cotton hose. The manufacture of nails, though thought to be declining, is still considerable.

There is an earthenware manufactory. Seams of coal are worked with advantage about a mile from Belper. The market is on Saturday: Many of the tradesmen hold some land, and other persons, whose principal occupation is in trade or manufacture, are also partially occupied in agriculture.

There are two neat almshouses for aged people, with a small endowment. There is a Mechanics' Library at Belper, and several of the Sunday-schools have lending libraries attached to them.

There are roads from Belper to the following places:—

Ashbourn, 8 miles; Wirksworth, 6 miles; Matlock, along the valley of the Derwent, 9 miles; and post-horses may be had at one of the inns. The road from Derby to Chesterfield and Sheffield passes through Belper, but all the coaches on this road are now discontinued.

The railway twice crosses the Derwent soon after leaving the Belper Station; then a second tunnel is passed through, and for the seventh and last time we cross the beautiful river which forms the companion of the railway from Derby, immediately after which another short tunnel occurs, and we reach the

AMBER GATE STATION;

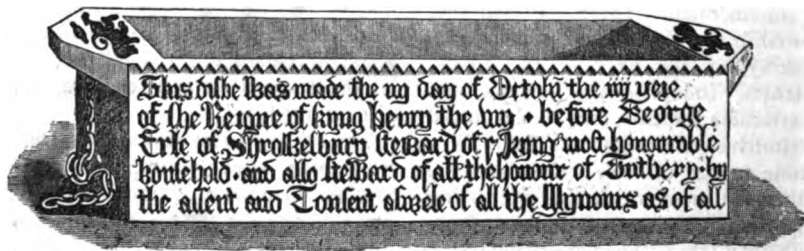
which might however with more propriety be called the Matlock Station, the present name being merely derived from a toll-gate close to the station on the turnpike road. Here the river

Amber, which rises beyond Northedge, near Wingerworth, falls into the Derwent.

Matlock is 6 miles from the station, by a road which passes through the picturesque vale of Derwent; Cromford is 5 miles; Wirksworth between 5 and 6; Buxton, 22; and Crich 2. An omnibus from Matlock and a coach from Buxton meet the principal trains, and post-horses may be had at the inn which has been erected near the station.

Wirksworth is the capital of the lead-mine district, and is situated in a valley, nearly surrounded by hills, on the southern edge of that district. It is a place of great antiquity, giving its

name to the wapentake, the other divisions of the county being called hundreds. Roman coins and other relics have been discovered in the vicinity of the town. The lead-mines afford the chief means of employment, but there are cotton, hosiery, hat, and some other manufactories in the neighbourhood. The customs of the Barmote courts for determining disputes between the miners and offences against their ancient laws have already been noticed. The Barmote courts are held twice a-year in a handsome stone building, built in 1814, at the expense of the Duchy of Lancaster; and here is deposited the ancient brass dish used as a standard for measuring the



[Miners' Standard Dish.]

ore. The manor and wapentake of Wirksworth belong to the crown, and the dean of Lincoln possesses manorial rights which attach to the church. The vicar is entitled by custom to every fortieth dish (of fourteen pints) of lead ore raised in the parish. The town is governed by a constable and headborough, and is lighted with gas. The

weekly markets were obtained in 1307 by Thomas, earl of Lancaster, grandson to Henry III. The church is a handsome Gothic structure, of the fourteenth century, and consists of a nave and side aisles, a north and south transept, a chancel, and a square tower in the centre. There are some interesting monuments and tombs, one of

Anthony Gell, who founded the school and almshouses 1583, and one of Sir John Gell, the Parliamentary General, 1671 ; also one of Anthony Lowe, who served Henry VII. Henry VIII. Edward VI. and Queen Mary. The grammar-school founded by Anthony Gell has long been in a neglected state. In 1830 there were not 10 scholars receiving benefit from it, the head master having engrossed the duties of the classical and English department which had formerly been held by two individuals. They have been subsequently divided, but the emoluments are still unfairly distributed. The school-house was rebuilt about 15 years ago, and is capable of containing 200 boys. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Methodists. At Hopton, in this parish, was the ancient seat of the Gells, but it was pulled down at the close of the last century, and a neat modern mansion erected. Hopton is famous for its stone quarries. The road called the *Via Gellia* to Matlock passes through a highly picturesque valley. The old road from Derby and Duffield to Matlock passes through Wirksworth ; also the road from Ashbourn to the same place ; likewise a road to Winster, and another which joins the road from Ashbourn to Buxton.

Cromford is a market-town, township, and chapelry in the parish of Wirksworth, chiefly on the north bank of the Derwent. It is in a deep valley, enclosed on the north, south, and west by lofty limestone rocks.

Cromford, like Belper, owes its prosperity to the cotton manufacture. The late Sir Richard Arkwright erected here a spacious cotton-mill on the north side of the Derwent ; it is now occupied by Messrs. R. and P. Arkwright, who employ in these mills and those at Masson, a little higher up the Derwent, 800 persons. The houses and mills are chiefly built of gritstone. The church is a plain building, begun by the late Sir R. Arkwright and finished by his son ; there was a more ancient chapel, but it has been demolished many years.

The population of Cromford, in 1831, was 1291. Lead-mines are worked in the neighbourhood ; lapis calaminaris is ground and prepared, and red lead manufactured. The Cromford Canal terminates here ; and the Cromford and High Peak Railway joins the canal a short distance south of the town. The land in the township chiefly belongs to R. Arkwright, Esq. ; every man employed at the mills capable of purchasing a cow has a piece of land sufficient to maintain it allotted to him. The market is on Saturday, and there are two fairs in the year. The education returns for 1833 give 1 infant school, 2 day-schools, 2 day and Sunday-schools, partly supported by P. Arkwright, Esq. Mr. Arkwright has built two new school-rooms since 1833. There is a Methodist chapel ; and there are alms-houses for six poor widows.

Winster is a market-town and chapelry in the parish of Youlgreave, and is 4 miles north-west of Wirksworth.

The houses are built of limestone, and partly thatched and partly covered with stone: they are intermingled with orchards and gardens. The market is on Saturday. The population of the chapelry in 1831 was 951: that of the whole parish (which is large) was 3681: the inhabitants are chiefly engaged in mining. The church at Youlgreave presents a mixture of the Norman and English styles. A school for the education of children was founded by subscription in 1765, and in 1824 the Duke of Rutland built a house for the master. There are several barrows on the commons in the neighbourhood of Winster; in one which was opened in 1768 several antiquities were found.

Matlock will be noticed in a subsequent chapter. Returning towards the station we have Crich on the left. It is a market-town and parish, situated between the rivers Amber and Derwent, on the road from Alfreton to Wirksworth, 5 miles west of Alfreton and 5 east of Wirksworth, and about 12 miles north from Derby. The town is built on a considerable limestone hill that overlooks all the eminences round it. The church, which forms a very conspicuous object, has a very tall spire. On a cliff near the village is a circular tower of modern erection, from which an extensive and beautiful prospect is obtained. The parish is divided into three townships: Crich, Wessington, and Tansley, and comprises 6180 acres, and 3067 inhabitants. The inhabitants of the township of Crich are chiefly engaged in working

the lead-mines, in getting limestone, which is excellent both for agriculture and building, and burning it to lime. There is a branch railway from Crich to the North Midland Railway near the Amber Station and the Cromford Canal, where the kilns are situated at which the lime is burnt. The stocking manufacture is also carried on in and around Crich. There was anciently a market at Crich; but it had been discontinued. In the middle of the last century an attempt was made to revive it, but the attempt failed; in 1810 it was re-opened, and is still held. It is on Thursday, but is not much resorted to. There are two fairs in the year for cattle, pedlers' wares, &c.

There are places of worship in the parish for Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists and General Baptists. The parish contained in 1833, 11 day-schools and 5 Sunday-schools.

On the right of the Amber Gate Station are Heage and Pentridge, both considerable villages, the former within 2 miles south-east and the latter about 2 miles north-east of the station. The Cromford Canal crosses the line of the North Midland Railway by an aqueduct about half a mile from the station; and the road to Crich is carried under the railway and passes over the Amber at the same place, the river, road, railway, and canal being one over the other. The Railway Company were liable to be heavily mulcted for every hour during which the navigation of the canal was impeded, and it was thought that the

proprietors of the canal would have received a very handsome sum, but so far from this being the case, the canal was not obstructed for a single day; the large iron tank for the aqueduct being floated from the Codnor Park iron-works into its proper place with the greatest ease. The Cromford Canal joins the Erewash Canal about 5 miles east from this point, passing through a district containing coal-mines and iron-works. The Butterly iron-works, established in 1793, are near the canal, about 3 miles from the station; and those at Codnor are in the same vicinity. There is a railway between these iron-works; also one from the neighbourhood of Codnor, which joins the Derby Canal at Little Eaton. In the reign of Henry III. Richard de Grey possessed a castle at Codnor, which belonged to his heirs the Barons Grey, of Codnor, until the reign of Henry VII. It was inhabited at the commencement of the last century, but is now in ruins.

Soon after leaving the Amber Gate Station the railway passes through a short tunnel and is then carried along the beautiful valley of the Amber, which stream it several times crosses. The distance to the next stopping place on the line is only $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles, and we therefore quickly reach the

WINFIELD STATION.

Numerous small villages make use of this station, amongst which are Morton, distant 3 miles from the station; Shirland 2 miles; Pentrich 2;

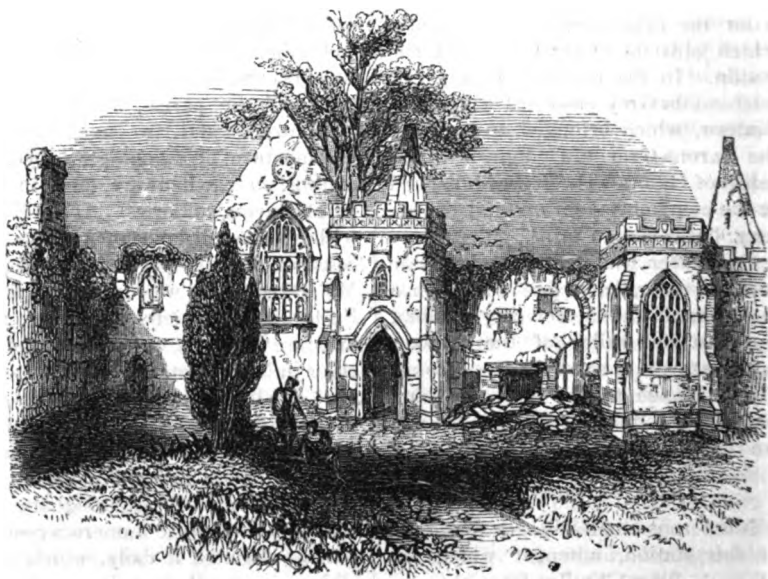
Swanwick 3; Butterly 3; and Codnor Park 4: these are eastward of the line. On the west are Winfield $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile distant; Crich 3; Wessington 2; Ashover 6. An omnibus to Alfreton, 2 miles distant, waits the arrival of the principal trains, and it may be as well to state that the high fare is owing to two toll-gates being placed between the railway and the town. In the summer season there is a daily conveyance from Mansfield to the railway station, a distance of 11 miles, but in winter the communication is not so frequent.

Alfreton is an ancient market-town. The houses are irregularly built and some of them very old; the church, a rude ancient structure, has an embattled tower with pinnacles. The population of the parish, which in 1831 amounted to 5691, are engaged in the manufacture of stockings, in coarse cottons, in earthenware, and in the neighbouring collieries. At Riddings, within a short distance of Alfreton, are considerable iron-works belonging to Mr. Oke. The weekly market is on Friday, and is chiefly for grain; and there are two fairs, one in July, and the other in November, the latter a statute fair. The living is a vicarage in the gift of the Morewood family, whose seat we pass in coming from the railway station. Alfreton being situated on the high road between Birmingham and Sheffield, there were numerous coaches passing through it daily, which have all been removed since the opening of the railway. There are two good inns

in the town, at which post-horses may be obtained.

The first object of attraction to the west of the station is Winfield Manor House, the ruins of which are observed in passing along the line. They occupy a commanding eminence within less than a mile from the station, the village church of Winfield being situated midway between them. The road winds up the hill and passes through the village, but there is a foot-path across the fields, which gradually becomes steeper as we approach the manor

house. Passing some ancient yews which once ornamented the grounds and now serve to render their aspect more solemn, we enter the south court. Blore, the antiquary, who wrote a good history of South Winfield, says:—"The building consists of two square courts, one of which to the north has been built on all sides, and the south side of it forms the north side of the south court, which has also ranges of buildings on the east and west sides and on parts of the south: the latter court seems principally to have con-



[North side of the Quadrangle of Winfield Manor House.]

sisted of offices. The first entrance is under an arched gateway, on the east side of the south court: the communication hence with the inner court is under an arched gateway in the middle of the north side of the south court." The mansion was castellated and embattled, and on the only side by which it is not approached by an ascent, it appears to have been strengthened by a moat; but, as Blore remarks, it "was one of the earliest instances of those noble quadrangular mansions which succeeded the irregular piles of mixed building that were the first deviations from the gloomy uncomfortableness of castles." It was built by Ralph Lord Cromwell, Lord High Treasurer to Henry VI. (1422-1461.) At each angle of the principal court there is a tower, that at the south-west being higher than the others. Many of the windows are pointed, and there are open-work ornaments below the battlements. The dimensions of the great hall are 72 feet by 36, and underneath is a cellar of nearly the same size, with a groined roof supported by a double row of pillars. The hall and the greater part of the building are roofless and exposed to the elements. A part of the ruins is occupied by a farmhouse, and other parts are used for stables, &c. The manor came into the possession of the Earls of Shrewsbury by purchase, and now belongs to the family of Halton, one of whom, a man of some scientific attainments in the seventeenth century, is buried in the village church. Mary Queen of Scots

was some time at Winfield manor-house under the care of the Earl of Shrewsbury.

During the civil wars the manor-house was at first garrisoned by the Parliamentary party, but in 1643 it was taken by the Royalists. Again it fell into the hands of the Parliament, being taken by storm by the soldiers under Sir John Gell, when Col. Dalby, the governor, was killed in the conflict. In 1646 the Parliament ordered it to be dismantled, and it was further dilapidated and despoiled under less excusable circumstances, a modern mansion near the manor-house having been partly erected out of the old materials.

The road through Winfield leads to Wirksworth, *vid* Crich.

On leaving the Winfield Station the railway still pursues the valley of the Amber, passing the villages of Normanton, Blackwell, Shirland, Tibshelf, and Morton at some distance on the right, and Ashover on the left. At a distance of $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Winfield is the

SMITHY MOOR STATION.

The river Rother, which rises in this neighbourhood and flows into the Don at Rotherham, runs near the

TUPTON STATION,

which is $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the Station at Smithy Moor. Before reaching Tupton the railway passes through the Clay Cross Tunnel, by far the most important work on the line, being $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile in length. At Tupton the main

line is joined by two short branches, the one to the right leading from collieries at Williamsthorp and that on the left to the extensive colliery at Tupton belonging to the Wingerworth Coal Company, who have a bed of coal comprising an area of between 4 and 5 square miles. This coal closely resembles that of the Durham and Newcastle coal-field, and the facilities which the railways offer have induced the undertakers to commence their operations with a view of supplying the London market, the absence of economical means of transport having previously rendered it hopeless to compete with the sea-borne coal in the metropolis. This is one of the many benefits which railways may confer if the directors act in a spirit of liberality. The collieries of Mr. Stephenson are near the northern end of the tunnel. They are on an extensive scale, and the combined operations of the Tupton and Clay Cross Companies will probably produce an impression upon the London market in the course of two or three years. In 1840 the quantity of inland coal supplied to the metropolis had increased from 1685 tons in 1838, to 22,000 tons. Near the Tupton Station is Wingerworth Hall, the seat of the Hunlokes, an ancient Catholic family, created Baronets in 1642. Wingerworth Hall was garrisoned for the Parliament in 1643, but the present mansion was built on the old site in 1728.

Hardwick Hall is about 4 miles east of the Tupton Station. This mansion

is a most interesting specimen of the style of domestic architecture in Elizabeth's reign. Perhaps of all the surviving monuments of the period, Hardwick is the most interesting, from the intact state in which the building has remained since the days that it was tenanted by its eccentric foundress the Countess of Shrewsbury—"Bess of Hardwick,"—not less celebrated by her passion for building than for her masculine spirit. It belongs to the Duke of Devonshire, and in the sixteenth century was the dower of Elizabeth, sister and heiress of John Hardwick, of Hardwick, Esq. This lady married first Sir William Cavendish and lastly the Earl of Shrewsbury, having had four husbands. Hutton remarks that "she saw the end of four husbands, procured a dowry from each, was immensely rich, performed many works of charity and magnificence, continued a widow 17 years, and died in 1607 in extreme age."

Hardwick stands on the brow of a bold and commanding eminence overlooking a vale of great beauty, beyond which extends a picturesque landscape bounded by the distant eminences of the Peak. The Devonshire Arms, one of those quiet places which a tourist always rejoices to find, half inn and half farm-house, is at the foot of the hill. The ascent is steep, and on the crest of the ridge is the fine old baronial residence which has been abandoned since the erection of the present hall. The state-room, generally called the Giants' Chamber, was of magnifi-

cent dimensions; but the whole pile is now only a splendid ruin luxuriantly mantled with ivy. In the reign of Henry VII. it was the residence of the Hardwick family.

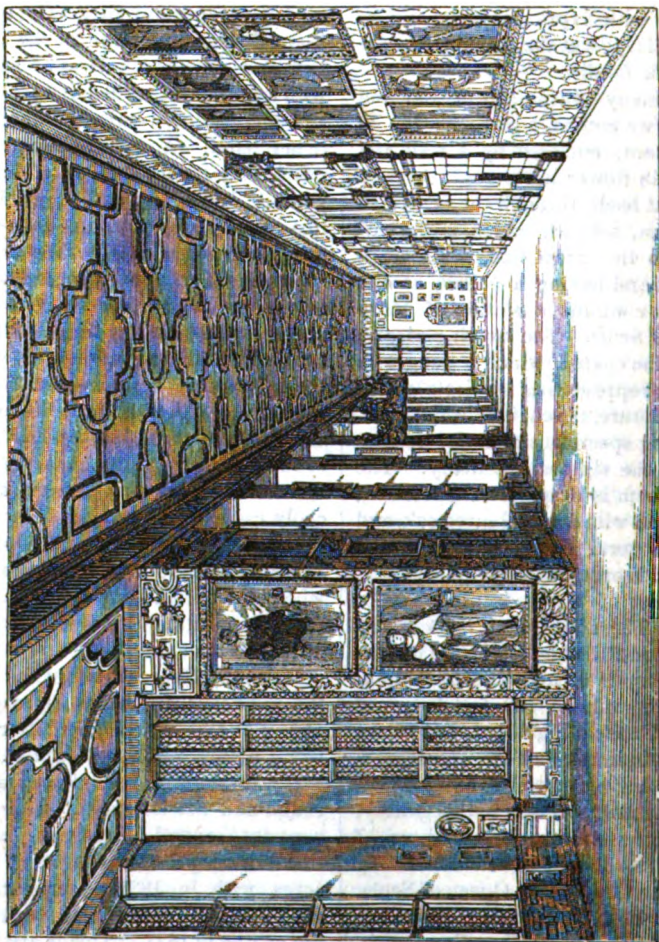
Not many yards from the old building we enter a square garden of some extent, enclosed by a wall and laid out in flower parterres. A broad pavement leads through the centre to the piazza, beneath which is the entrance to the great hall, wainscoted with oak and having a gallery at one end. It contains a statue of Mary Queen of Scots. The north staircase leads to the chapel, which is hung with tapestry representing subjects taken from Scripture, the chairs, cushions, &c. exhibiting specimens of fancy needle-work of the sixteenth century. The dining-room is a spacious apartment, wainscoted with dark coloured oak, and contains several portraits. The drawing-room is ornamented with tapestry, the subject of which is the story of Esther. The state-room is 65 feet by 33 feet, and 26 feet in height. The picture gallery is of magnificent dimensions, being above 160 feet long, 22 wide, and 26 feet high. It is lighted by 18 large windows which are 20 feet high, each forming a capacious recess. There are nearly 200 portraits in this gallery, the most interesting being those of "Bess of Hardwick," Queen Elizabeth, Lady Jane Grey, Mary Queen of Scots, Cardinal Pole, Bishop Gardener, Sir Thomas More, Sir William Cavendish, created Earl of Devonshire, and William, the first Duke, and one of

Hobbes, the philosopher. The Countess of Shrewsbury is represented at two periods of her long life. The earliest is a full-length portrait in the double ruff and close black dress of her day, with long sleeves turned up at the wrist and small pointed white cuffs, and a fan in her hand. A chain of five rows of pearls hangs below the waist. The other portrait is a half-length, representing this remarkable woman at a more advanced period of life, the features indicating sharpness and energy. The bed-rooms convey a good idea of the cold stateliness of the times. The furniture is in many instances older than the house, and was removed from the old hall. Some of the needle-work is said to have employed the fair hands of the Queen of Scots, but the older mansion was the place of her melancholy captivity.

Hardwick is in the parish of Ault Hucknall, and Hobbes, the philosopher, who resided with his pupil, the Duke of Devonshire, at Chatsworth, is buried in the church.

From the Tupton Station the line of the railway is parallel to the road from Derby to Chesterfield, the latter place being within 4 miles of Tupton.

Chesterfield is a municipal borough and market town. The parish contains several chapelries, hamlets, and townships, has an area of 13,160 acres, with, in 1831, a population of 10,688, which is an increase of 1498 on the census of 1821. This is attributed principally to an increase of collieries and iron-works. The population of



[Hardwick Hall :—The Grand Gallery.]

the borough of Chesterfield in 1801 was 4267; in 1811, 4476; in 1821, 5077; in 1831, 5775. Two rivulets, the Hyper and Rother, run past the town.

Chesterfield is conjectured, from its name, to have been a Roman station. At the Norman survey it was an insignificant place. The town received various privileges from King John, but was not incorporated till the reign of Elizabeth. Under the Municipal Corporations Act, it is governed by 4 aldermen and 12 councillors, but is not divided into wards. The limits of the borough are co-extensive with the township, which is about four miles in circumference. The Easter quarter sessions for the county are held at Chesterfield; and it is the centre of a Union for the management of the poor. The weekly market, which is numerously attended, is held on Saturday, but there is a want of accommodation for the public, who are exposed to the inclemencies of the weather. There are several fairs in the year. The appearance of the town is not very prepossessing, and it has a dingy air. The town is lighted under an act passed in 1825. In and near the town there are silk, lace, and pipe-manufactories, potteries, iron-founderies, and collieries.

There were in 1835, 26 daily and Sunday-schools in the town. A grammar or free-school, founded in the reign of Elizabeth, and formerly well attended, has been closed since 1832. It was under the management of the

corporation. There are various public and benevolent institutions, a literary and philosophical society, a mechanics' institute (established in 1841), and two weekly newspapers are published in the town.

The Chesterfield Canal, which commences in the tideway of the Trent, after a course of 46 miles, terminates at Chesterfield. This canal was planned by Brindley. It has 65 locks, and is carried through 2 tunnels, one of which is 2850 yards long.

Chesterfield Church, erected during the thirteenth century, is a beautiful and spacious edifice. The ground plan is in the form of a single cross; and at the intersection of the two arms arises a well-proportioned and elegant square tower, surrounded by a plain simple parapet, bearing at each angle an octagonal pinnacle surmounted by a rod and weather-vane. On this tower is placed the spire, which, but for its crookedness, would be thought of very just proportions. It rises to the height of 230 feet, exclusive of the rod which bears the weathercock; and is built of timber, and covered with lead in such a manner as to divide each octagonal side into two distinct and channelled planes, giving it altogether a singular and, indeed, a unique appearance. Its dark colour, however, and the want of brackets to break the outline, add an appearance of heaviness to the general effect, which is utterly at variance with the other parts of the building.

The interior of the church consists of a nave, two aisles, a transept, and

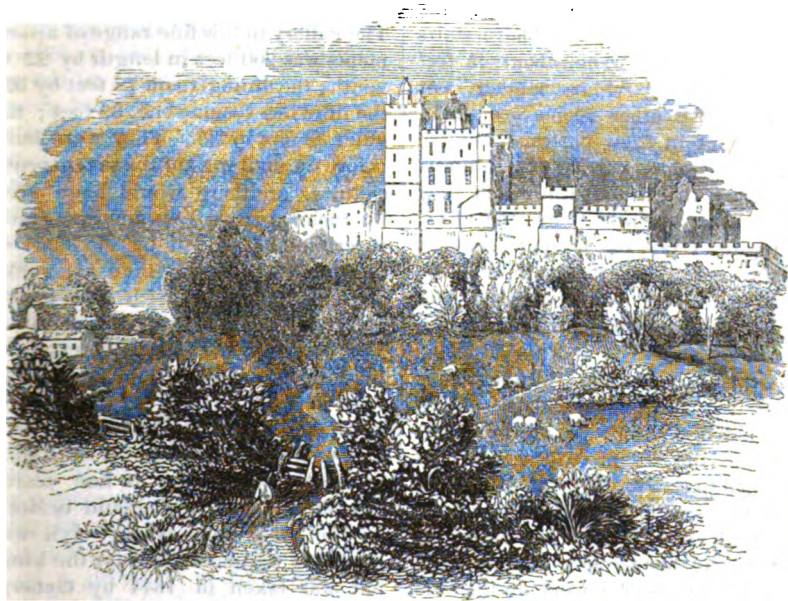
chancel. Its length from east to west is 168 feet 9 inches, breadth of the body 59 feet 6 inches, and length of the transept from north to south 109 feet 6 inches. It has been newly paved, and is at present about to be repewed.

Whoever enters the town, either from the north or the south, will be struck with the singular appearance of the spire, which, instead of being perpendicular, is evidently much bent towards the west. It is singular that almost every writer who has had occasion to mention Chesterfield has called this appearance an optical deception, arising from the twisted form of the leaden planes which cover its surface. Even Mr. Rickman, in his work on 'Gothic Architecture,' says,—“The *apparent* leaning of the spire arises partly from the curious spiral mode of putting on the lead, and partly from an inclination of the general lines of the wood-work of the spire.” But had he walked out of the town to the eastward or to the westward, he would have seen this crooked spire assume a perfectly perpendicular appearance, for in one case the bulging, and in the other the hollow, part of the steeple would be towards him, and consequently the crookedness would be lost; or, had he ventured to mount the tower, and walk round the base of the spire, he would have seen on the south, or rather at the south-western angle, the ball at the summit almost vertical to his head, while on the opposite side the same ball would be hidden from the sight by

the swelling of the middle of the spire. These observations would at once have proved the fact, that this curious steeple is not *apparently* but *really* crooked. To place its real crookedness beyond a doubt, the situation of the ball was subjected to a careful measurement some years since, when it was found to deviate from the perpendicular 6 feet towards the south and 4 feet 4 inches towards the west, giving its greatest angle of inclination somewhere near to the south-west angle. Perhaps this crookedness may be the result of accident, the effect of lightning, for example; but no record exists of any such casualty having occurred to the edifice.

The Chesterfield Station is a very handsome edifice, as indeed are all the stations on the North Midland Railway. It is about a quarter of a mile on the east of the town, and omnibuses attend the arrival and departure of the trains.

Bolsover Castle, about 6 miles due east of Chesterfield, through the small villages of Calow and Duckmanton, is an unfinished mansion, erected in the early part of the seventeenth century, on the site of an ancient castle erected soon after the Conquest by the family of Peveril. In 1215 it was seized by the disaffected barons. In the reign of Edward VI. it was granted by the crown to the Earls of Shrewsbury, who, in 1613, sold it to Sir Charles Cavendish; afterwards it came into the possession of the Dukes of Newcastle, and subse-



[Bolsover Castle.]

quently, by the marriage of a daughter, it passed into the hands of the Bentincks, and at present belongs to the Duke of Portland. The old castle was in ruins in Leland's time (sixteenth century), and no vestige of it now remains. The edifice now called the Castle stands on the bleak brow of a commanding eminence overlooking a wide extent of country. It was begun by Sir Charles Cavendish, who appears to have removed on the occasion what remained of the old castle. It has a

castellated appearance, being in fact a square, lofty, and embattled structure of brown stone, with a tower at each angle, of which that at the north-east angle is much higher and larger than any of the others. A flight of steps on the east side leads through a passage to the hall (the roof of which is supported by stone pillars), and thence to the only room designed for habitation on this floor. This apartment, called the "Pillar Parlour," is 21 feet square, and has an arched ceiling,

which is supported in the centre by a circular pillar, around which the dining-table is placed. Above stairs there is a large room, about 45 feet by 30, called the "Star-chamber," but most of the other rooms are small. They contain a few portraits, but the rooms are more particularly interesting from the taste with which they have been furnished by the Rev. Hamilton Gray, the present occupant of the castle. The furniture is in the style of the seventeenth century, and everything has been done to give the character and air of that period to the apartments. In some of the rooms most frequently occupied, the quaint and old-fashioned style of the furniture of the seventeenth century is adapted to the drawing-room luxuries of the present day. To the classic taste and high refinement of Mr. Hamilton Gray, and his no less accomplished lady (authoress of a work on the 'Sepulchres of Etruria'), the visitor will be indebted for a sight of the valuable collection of Etruscan vases, Roman antiquities, models of ancient temples, &c., the beauty and interest of which can only be fully appreciated by persons of highly-cultivated taste and classic acquirements. The floor of most of the rooms is of stone or plaster.

The residence of the family of Cavendish was probably in the magnificent range of ruined apartments which extend to the west of the structure we have mentioned, and of which only the outside walls are now standing. In front of this mansion there was a

fine terrace, from which a magnificent flight of steps led to the entrance. The gallery in this fine range of apartments was 200 feet in length by 22 in width; the dining-room 78 feet by 32; the drawing-rooms—one, 39 feet; the other 36 feet by 33. They were built before the civil wars of the seventeenth century, or there would have been no room at Bolsover for the grand entertainment given by the Earl of Newcastle (such was then his rank) to King Charles, with the court, and "all the gentry of the county." The earl had previously entertained the king at Bolsover in 1633, when he went to Scotland to be crowned. The dinner on this occasion cost 4000*l*.; and Clarendon speaks of it as "such an excess of feasting as had scarce ever been known in England before." In the early part of the civil war the castle was garrisoned for the king, but was taken in 1644 by General Crawford, who is said to have found it well manned and fortified with great guns and strong works. During the sequestration of the Marquis of Newcastle's estates, Bolsover Castle suffered much, both in its buildings and furniture, and was to have been demolished for the sake of the materials, had it not been purchased by Sir Charles Cavendish for his brother. The noble owner repaired the buildings after the Restoration, and occasionally made the place his residence.

The village of BOLSOVER is pleasantly situated, together with the castle, upon a point projecting into a valley

which surrounds it on every side except the north-east. The inhabitants (including the township of Gapwell) amounted to 1429 in 1831, and are chiefly employed in agriculture. The parish church has portions of its architecture in the Norman style, intermixed with the later English and some more modern additions. There were formerly traces of a Danish earth-work at Bolsover.

At Elmton, a village about 3 miles north-east of Bolsover, Jedediah Buxton was born, about the year 1705. His grandfather had been clergyman of the parish, and his father was school-master of the same place; but Jedediah was so illiterate that he could not even write, and his mental faculties, with one exception, were of a low order. He possessed, however, remarkable facility in performing arithmetical calculations; and when he fairly understood a problem, which it was not easy for him to do if it was a little complicated, he solved it with wonderful rapidity. He was altogether incapable of looking into the relations of things, except with respect to the number of parts of which they were composed. After hearing a sermon he knew nothing more of it than that it contained a certain number of words, which he had counted during its delivery. If a period of time were mentioned, he began calculating the number of minutes which it included; and if the size of any object were described, he would at once compute how many hair's-breadths it contained.

His ideas were comparatively childish; and his mind was only stored with a few constants which facilitated his calculations; such as the number of minutes in a year, and of hair's-breadths in a mile. His system of mental arithmetic was not founded upon any sound principles; in fact he could scarcely be said to have a system. He would, for instance, in order to ascertain the product of 478 multiplied by 100, proceed first to multiply it by 5 and then by 20, instead of at once adding a couple of ciphers. His condition in life appears to have been either that of a small land-owner or a day-labourer; but probably the former.

On the west of Chesterfield are Buxton, 24 miles; Chapel-en-le-Frith, through Tideswell, the same distance; Bakewell, 12 miles; and Chatsworth House, 10. On the south-east is Mansfield, 12 miles; on the north-east Worksop, 16 miles, both in Nottinghamshire; and Sheffield is 12 miles North. Chesterfield is in fact the centre of the road communications of North Derbyshire. Thus on the south are the roads from Derby and Alfreton; on the south-east the road from Mansfield; on the south-west the roads from Winster and Matlock; on the west those from Buxton, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Bakewell, Tideswell, and Castleton; on the north-east the road from Worksop; on the north that from Sheffield.

The road from Chesterfield to Sheffield passes through Dronfield, a market-town about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the

former and $6\frac{1}{2}$ from the latter. The parish is extensive, containing 15,580 acres, or more than 24 square miles. It contains, besides Dronfield town (population 1653 in 1831), the townships of Little Barlow, Coal Aston, and Unstone; the chapelries of Holmsfield and Dore, and the hamlet of Totley; the population of the whole parish was 3974. The parish church is situated on a hill on one side of the town. It has a fine tower and spire, chiefly in the decorated English style. The chancel has been very fine; it contains three rich stone stalls, the foliage of which is very beautiful; but the large east window has been deprived of its tracery. There are meeting-houses for Quakers, Wesleyans, and Independents.

There are some manufactures carried on at Dronfield, chiefly of iron goods, as cast-iron chains, nails, axes, chisels, and other edge-tools, common cutlery, and agricultural implements. The market is on Thursday, but is almost disused. There is a well-endowed free-school for 60 boys and 20 girls. The dependent districts of the parish have some manufactures similar to those of the town itself. Dore (which appears to include Totley) is a perpetual curacy of the yearly value of 90*l.*, in the gift of Earl Fitzwilliam; Holmsfield is also a perpetual curacy of the yearly value of 97*l.*, with a glebe-house.

Beauchief Abbey is just within the boundary of Derbyshire, in a pleasant vale on the left of the road. It was

founded in 1183, for Premonstratensian or White Canons, by Robert Fitz Ranulph, lord of Alfreton, said to have been one of the murderers of Thomas à Becket, in expiation of whose murder the abbey was built, and to whom, when canonized, it was dedicated. Its yearly revenues, at the dissolution, were 157*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* gross, or 126*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* clear. The only part of the abbey now remaining is the west end of the conventual church, which is used as the chapel of the extra-parochial district of Beauchief. The architecture is plain, but the situation amidst woods and hills delightful. Dr. Pegge denies that Beauchief Abbey was erected in expiation of Becket's death, or that Fitz Ranulph had any connexion with that deed.

The country is very beautiful as we approach Sheffield. The nearest high lands are covered with lofty woods, beyond which are the distant moorlands extending westward. On the eastward are gently-rising grounds enclosed and cultivated, and northward appears the populous town of Sheffield. We enter Yorkshire at Heeley Bridge, over the River Sheaf, about a mile from Sheffield.

The most expeditious mode of reaching Sheffield, from most parts of Derbyshire, is to travel by the North Midland Railway to Rotherham, and then take the railway from that town to Sheffield.

We shall now return to the Chesterfield Station, on leaving which the course of the railway is nearly due

north-for rather more than 2 miles, but on approaching the village of Whittington it bends in a direction almost due east towards Staveley, when it again assumes its northerly course. The railway, as well as the Chesterfield Canal, pursue the course of the Rother Valley; but a little beyond Staveley the former makes a deviation from this line, passing, by means of a tunnel, through a ridge which separates the Rother from an affluent which has its rise in Hardwick Park.

Whittington is a small village about a mile on the left between the railway and the Sheffield road. On Whittington Moor was a public-house, called the Revolution House, from its having been the place where the Earl of Danby (afterwards Duke of Leeds), the Earl (afterwards Duke) of Devonshire, and other friends of liberty, assembled to concert measures for effecting the Revolution of 1688. The moor was to have been their place of meeting, but a storm coming on, they repaired to a public-house then called the "Cock and Pynot" (Magpie). The centenary of the Revolution was celebrated here in 1788. The church contains a monument of Dr. Samuel Pegge, the antiquary, who was 45 years rector of the parish.

The eastern bend which the railway takes brings us near the village of Staveley, and to the

STAVELEY STATION,

$3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Chesterfield. Here and in the neighbourhood are many coal-

mines and extensive iron-works. The Chesterfield Canal passes through the village; there are tram-roads from the collieries; and everywhere are the signs of a spirit of active industry. After passing through a tunnel, and proceeding a short distance close to the River Rother, we perceive Renishaw Hall, the seat of Sir George Sitwell, Bart., and immediately reach

THE ECKINGTON STATION.

This station is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Chesterfield, and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ from the village of Eckington, which is on the left. The parish is extensive, and contained a population of 4000 in 1831, distributed in four townships. The manufacture of scythes, sickles, and other hardware is carried on in the parish. Renishaw Hall is about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from the station. The principal road connected with the Eckington Station is that, from Sheffield to Worksop, the former 8 miles distant, and the latter about 10. BARLBOROUGH HALL, 2 miles east of the station, is situated close to this road. The mansion is in the Elizabethan style, and is very pleasantly situated in a deer-park.

We are now about to conclude our railway trip, for at Beighton, $3\frac{1}{2}$ from the Eckington Station, and $36\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Leeds, the railway crosses the River Rother by a very large and substantial bridge, and enters Yorkshire. The present station at Beighton is a temporary wooden edifice. At Woodhouse Mill, nearly due east from Sheffield, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Beighton,

there is also a station. If there were not a railway already in existence between Sheffield and Rotherham, the station at Woodhouse Mill would connect Sheffield with the North Midland line rather more conveniently than any other point, especially for all persons travelling to or from the south. At present the distance of 11 or 12 miles by railway from Beighton or Woodhouse Mill to Sheffield, *via* Rotherham, may be more expeditiously performed than by stopping at either of the first-mentioned places, and proceeding direct to Sheffield by the turnpike road, a distance

of 6 miles. The Sheffield and Rotherham Railway is not only a feeder of the North Midland line, but enjoys the advantages of a very active independent traffic between the two towns; but a railway line from Woodhouse Mill to Sheffield would have no such advantage, and would scarcely be profitable as a mere connecting link with the North Midland line, with little or no local traffic of its own. The Rotherham Station is therefore the one at which the traveller from the south, who intends to visit Sheffield, will find it most convenient to leave the line.

CHAPTER VI.

MATLOCK.

THE tourist whose destination is Matlock will leave the North Midland Railway at the AMBER GATE STATION, which is $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Derby and $13\frac{1}{2}$ from Chesterfield. We have before mentioned that omnibuses run in connexion with the principal trains, and that post-horses may be had at the new inn erected near the station. The road to Matlock from Amber Gate is at once wild and picturesque, passing through the valley of the Derwent, the sides of which are in some cases rugged and precipitous, and in others clothed with verdure, and crowned to the summit with the oak, the birch, and other trees: the prevailing character of the scene is, however, wild; and the traveller who has been accustomed to the quiet and gentle scenery of the southern counties will soon become delighted with the new features which the country here begins to present, and which, on the Heights of Abraham and Masson becoming visible, assume a grandeur to which he has been unaccustomed. The fine situation of Willersley Castle, the seat of Richard Arkwright, Esq., will call forth his admiration. Here the valley appears rich and smiling; the river and the Cromford Canal wind through the vale,

and the prospect is bounded by the distant eminences of the Peak. The Tor is just seen, and after passing the High Peak Railway we soon reach the entrance to Matlock Dale.

"Matlock Dale," says Mr. Jewitt, in a little work called the '*Matlock Companion*,' "is naturally a deep, narrow ravine, how produced, or by what convulsion, must be left to geologists to determine. One side is formed by lofty perpendicular limestone rocks, the other by the sloping sides of giant mountains; along the bottom runs the Derwent, sometimes pent up in a narrow channel, and obstructed by the fragments which have, from time to time, fallen from the beetling Tor, and sometimes spreading like a lucid lake, and reflecting as a mirror the beautiful but softened tints of the overhanging foliage." The High Tor* is a huge rock, which rises almost perpen-

* The word *tor* is a Saxon one, from whence, according to the etymologists, comes our word *tower*. The Latin *turris*, the Saxon *tor*, and the English *tower*, appear to be related in their signification, meaning, in their original sense, something erected on an eminence. We have preserved the syllable *tor*, as we have many other words which are of what are termed Cimbro-Celtic and Teutonic or Gothic origin, in the names of many places of Britain.



[Matlock High Tor.]

dicularly from the Derwent to a height of upwards of 400 feet. The lower part is covered with foliage, but the upper part presents a broad bold front of grey limestone. It forms a part of the chain of rocks which bounds the river on the east, and from its superior height and boldness is one of the most remarkable of the objects of Matlock Dale, and is distinguished for its effect, even in the midst of scenery, all of which is celebrated for its picturesque beauty. On the opposite side is

Masson, a rock or mountain of greater elevation than the Tor, but inferior to it as a striking and picturesque object.

Matlock Village and Bath are situated in the dale, which extends for 2 miles north and south, and is bounded on each side by steep rocks, whose naked sides rise to the height of about 300 feet, having their summits sometimes bare and sometimes covered with wood. The High Tor and Masson tower above the rest. The Derwent flows through the dale, and its banks are lined with

trees, except where the rocks approach and rise almost perpendicularly from the water. Matlock is well known as one of our English favourite summer resorts for invalids and idlers, as well as of those who go, for recreation or information, to see the wonders of the Peak of Derbyshire,—the rocks, mines, and caverns, and other mountainous scenery of that truly singular and interesting region. The mineral springs and scenery of Matlock have created a pleasant village, composed of inns, lodging-houses, and bathing establishments. The Matlock waters were brought into notice towards the close of the seventeenth century, when a bath was paved and built. Mr. Bray, who made a tour in Derbyshire about 60 years ago, states that at Matlock he saw a man whose grandfather worked at the first building over the Old Bath, "and no carriage had then ever passed through the dale,—indeed none could have passed, the rocks at that time extending too near the edge of the river." De Foe describes Matlock Dale as almost inaccessible in his time, from the want of a good road. In his 'Tour [through England,' he says, "This bath would be much more frequented than it is if a sad stony, mountainous road which leads to it, and no accommodation when you get there, did not hinder." More recently it was praised for its retirement and seclusion, but the road from London to Manchester being carried through it, brought the place more into notice and a much larger accession of visitors than it

could otherwise have received. For some years the company visiting the Baths were chiefly from Liverpool and Manchester. The railway will effect a still greater change, and the beauties of Matlock will become impressed upon the minds of thousands who, but for the facilities of rapid travelling, would be compelled to pass their few days of relaxation nearer home.

The discovery of new springs led to the formation of other baths, and Matlock now ranks with other fashionable and well-frequented watering-places. The waters have a temperature of about 66° or 68° Fahrenheit. They differ from those of Buxton, and are about 14° lower; their properties resembling the Bristol waters, and, like them, they are useful in bilious disorders, in phthisis, diabetes, and other complaints. The usual time for drinking the waters and for bathing is before breakfast, or between breakfast and dinner. The price of a bath varies from 1s. to 2s. 6d.

The village of Matlock Bath stands in the centre of Matlock Dale, and occupies parts of the surrounding heights, but, except on the Museum Parade, there is nowhere an approach to a regular street. At this point, however, are situated the hotels and principal lodging-houses, and the museums for the sale of the mineral and fossil productions of Derbyshire. Mr. Jewitt, in his 'Matlock Companion,' describes, with much animation, the scene which here presents itself to the

spectator :—"Fronting the houses is one of the finest specimens of rock scenery imaginable, in which foliage of the richest kind harmonizes with the broad ivy-covered face of the Tor, or contrasts with the rugged projecting crags. The summit is elegantly feathered with trees of the lightest ramification ; tall elms and ashes rise from among the tangled underwood, and afford shelter for thousands of rooks and daws ; the Derwent, here a smooth and gentle stream, washes its base and reflects the rich colours of its front, and a green lawn, partly planted as a shrubbery, carries the eye from the road to the water." Mr. Rhodes remarks, in his 'Park Scenery,' that within Matlock Dale a greater portion of magnificent scenery is comprised than is perhaps anywhere to be found in the same space. The scene described by Mr. Jewitt did not fail to attract the admiration of Mr. Rhodes. He entered the vale from the north ; and after winding along the valley at the base of the High Tor, he came suddenly in sight of the hotels, museums, and lodging-houses about Matlock Bath :—"A more extraordinary, and, to a stranger, a more unexpected and fascinating scene seldom occurs. At the time we beheld it, it was a vision of enchantment, a prospect into the fairy regions of romance, where all that can delight the mind and excite admiration seemed to be assembled together. The stream, as it slowly swept round the wooded hill in the front of the mu-

seum, sparkled with the vivid reflections of the white houses and the lofty trees that here adorn its banks : carriages rolling along the road, and well-dressed ladies and gentlemen perambulating the dale in various groups, gave animation to the scene. The unexpected novelty of the scene produced sensations of delight ; but the hotels and all the elegant accommodations of Matlock Bath were soon lost in the contemplation of the hills, rocks, and woods, with which they are surrounded."

Here, then, the tourist may enjoy advantages which few places can boast,—pure and invigorating air, romantic and picturesque scenery, excellent accommodation at the hotels and boarding-houses, the benefit of baths and mineral waters, and the pleasures of society or solitude, as he may feel inclined. The geologist and mineralogist will find innumerable objects of interest under his eyes ; and if he extend his observations to the neighbourhood, he cannot fail to increase his knowledge of his favourite pursuit. Matlock is not only a place full of interest in itself, but it is the centre of a district, every part of which has its attractions. Horses and vehicles may be hired at a moderate rate ; but the principal places of attraction in this part of Derbyshire are within a distance which will permit the pedestrian to visit them, and thus to enjoy himself in a manner at once simple and independent, and, with proper care, perhaps the most healthful.

The usual amusement of strangers at Matlock consists in visiting the caverns and mines, the petrifying wells, and the rocks, guides to which are always in attendance. The gardens of Willersley Castle are open to visitors on two or three days in the week; boats may be hired for a sail on the Derwent; the Heights of Abraham and the High Tor are visited, and rural walks may be enjoyed which afford prospects of great beauty. The Rutland Cavern has been excavated by the hands of man through successive ages, and when lighted up, its appearance is very magnificent. This is the largest of the Matlock caverns. The Cumberland Cavern is the most interesting to the geologist. The Devonshire Cavern is remarkable for its roof, which is nearly flat, and its sides are nearly perpendicular. The visitor makes his egress at a different opening from the one by which he entered. The Fluor Cavern is the one from which the fluor spar is obtained. The Speedwell Mine contains fine stalactites and spars, and, like the Cumberland Cavern, is very interesting to the geologist. The Side Mine is under the High Tor, and contains a grotto, in which are to be found crystallizations of calcareous or dog-tooth spar, of unequalled beauty and richness. The charge for admission to these caverns and mines is 1s. for each individual (exclusive of a fee to the guides): an extra charge is made if blue or Bengal lights are used. At

the Petrifying Wells the process of petrification may be seen, objects which are put into them becoming soon encrusted by the limestone precipitated from the water as it evaporates. At the museums, two or three of which are on an extensive scale, the mineralogical productions of Derbyshire are on sale, worked up into vases and ornamental designs; and cabinets of specimens of spar, fossils, crystallizations, &c., may be purchased.

A ramble to the summit of Masson is one of the most delightful enjoyments of Matlock. A winding path leads up wooded steep, and seats are provided at points commanding all the finest prospects. Mr. Rhodes states that the Heights of Abraham (the summit of Masson is so called) "command most interesting views over a vast extent of country. The eye ranges over a great portion of five counties, and looking eastward, it appears a plain to the sea." Westward are Hopton and Middleton Moors, and, carrying the eye to the opposite quarter, Wirksworth Moor, Cromford Moor, Crich Chace, Cliff and Stand, Tansley Moor, and Riber Hall pass successively in review; and between these leading features of the landscape there are glimpses of the beautiful vale of Derwent. The High Tor is 396 feet high, and it is therefore about 36 feet higher than the cross of St. Paul's Cathedral. Masson is double the height of the Tor, but its sides present the appearance of a bold and naked perpendicular wall of masonry,

which, from its extent, becomes really magnificent, and as interesting as it is grand from the sections of the strata which compose it being open to observation. The view from the High Tor is not remarkably striking, but the paths which lead to it are very beautiful.

The crags at Stonnis or "Stone-house" are on the Wirksworth road, about 2 miles from Matlock. The views from them are magnificent, and command a great extent of country : but we will again quote the author of 'Peak Scenery':—"I stood (he remarks) on the top of Stonnis: masses of rock lay scattered at my feet; a grove of pines waved their dark branches over my head; far below, embosomed in an amphitheatre of hills, one of the finest landscapes that nature anywhere presents, was spread before me. The habitations of men, some near and others far apart, were scattered over the scene; but, in the contemplation of the woods and rocks of Matlock Dale, the windings of the Derwent, the pine-crowned Heights of Abraham, and the proud hill of Masson, they were all forgotten: the structures man had reared seemed as nothing amidst the beauty and grandeur of the works of God. I have scaled the highest eminences in the mountainous districts of Derbyshire, seen from their summits the sweet dales that repose in tranquil beauty at their base, marked the multitude of hills included within the wide horizon they command, and my heart has

thrilled with pleasure at the sight; but not an eminence that I ever before ascended, not a prospect, however rich and varied, which I thence descried, was at all comparable with the view from Stonnis. In that species of beauty which, in landscape scenery, approaches to grandeur, it is unequalled in Derbyshire. The parts of which it is composed are of the first order of fine things, and they are combined with a felicity that but rarely occurs in nature. Scarthin Rock, the woods of Willersley Castle, Matlock High Tor, the hills of Masson and Riber, are all noble objects; and the rude masses that constitute the foreground of the picture are thrown together, and grouped and coloured in a manner strikingly picturesque."

The town of Wirksworth, about a mile from Stonnis, has already been noticed, but it may be visited by the sojourner at Matlock, being only 3 miles distant. Alluding to its geological position, Mr. Adam states in his useful little guide-book entitled 'The Gem of the Peak,' that it is "beautifully situated on the slope of the limestone measures."

Bonsall, 2 miles from Matlock, is a picturesque mining village. The church is an ancient edifice, and in the centre of the village is a curious old cross. The walk from Matlock is very agreeable, and Mr. Jewitt observes of the view from the village, that it presents "one of the most interesting successions of mills, wheels, and dams, for various purposes, formed

by a mountain rill, that can anywhere be met with ; and this, skirted by high mantling rocks or rough stony mountains with a variety of foliage intermingled, will delight the eye and set the imagination to work to decide whether the beautiful or sublime most predominates."

The village of Matlock, 2 miles from Matlock Bath, is ancient, and is inhabited chiefly by persons employed in the neighbouring lead-mines, and in the cotton manufacture. The parish is extensive, and contains the villages of Matlock, Matlock Bath, Matlock Bank, Harston or Hearthstone, and Riber. There are fine views from Matlock Bank ; and Riber, 2 miles from Matlock, is, or rather was, a spot of considerable interest to the antiquarian. In Bray's 'Tour in Derbyshire,' published in 1783, there is a description of the cromlech here which resembled the Logan Stone of Cornwall. These cromlechs are the vestiges of our remotest British ancestors, and usually consisted of a large stone placed in the manner of a table, but in an inclined position, upon other stones set up on end. They are supposed by some of our antiquarians to be the remains of altars used for idolatrous worship. This monument of superstition no longer exists, having been broken to build stone fences ; but the top of Riber presents extensive views. Towards the west the High Tor and Masson are visible ; and in the extreme distance Axe-edge. Hill and valley, moorland and peak, the

river Derwent, with villages and farms, complete the landscape.

The "Romantic Rocks," a modern name which smacks somewhat too much of the want of taste of local guides,* are notwithstanding a very interesting series of fragments and masses, which the geologist especially will delight to investigate. They appear as if just torn asunder, "the angles exactly corresponding, so that if the spectator could by any possibility move them back, they would fit to the greatest nicety." (Adam's 'Gem of the Peak.') Mr. Jewitt, after observing that it is difficult to describe this singular group of rocks, nevertheless conveys a very fair idea of their appearance. "Imagine (he says) in a recess formed by the internal angle of two massive rocks, a number of gigantic obelisks, apparently composed of rude stones piled one upon another, irregularly tapering to a point, and totally detached from each other, and from the parent rock, rising perpendicularly to the height of 60 feet. Imagine this recess overhung with the foliage of the ash, the elm, or the hazel that jut out of the sides of the rock, and with the profusion of shrubs and plants which hang down from the fissures, receiving, instead of the light of day, a cold sepulchral gloom which adds a solemn interest to the scene,—and a faint but imperfect

* This is a fault almost characteristic of Matlock : thus we have Cupid's Cascade, Queen Dido's Cave, and some others nearly as tasteless and inexpressive.

picture will be formed in the mind of the Romantic Rocks, perhaps better designated by their former name of Dungeon Tors." Mr. Jewitt adds that "these natural obelisks, even taken singly, are interesting subjects both to the artist and to the botanist: to the former from the rich tints produced on the grey stone by the variety of lichens and mosses with which it is covered; and to the latter by the examination of these lichens, mosses, and other curious plants which are found within the recess. Altogether these rocks

produce the foreground of a picture rich in the strongest shade and embellished with plants of every tint, while it commands from its extreme altitude a distance for beauty, variety, and brilliancy indescribable."

We have now enumerated the principal sources of attraction which are to be found at Matlock and its immediate neighbourhood. The excursions which may be made from this point to more distant places will form the subject of the next chapter.

CHAPTER VII.

EXCURSIONS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF MATLOCK.

TO CHATSWORTH.

CHATSWORTH and Haddon Hall are sometimes visited in one day's excursion, the former being 12 miles N. by W. of Matlock, and the latter 8 miles N.W. by W. The beauties and attractions of this part of Derbyshire are so thickly distributed, that there is some temptation to hurry over them; but if the tourist has sufficient time at his disposal, he will find it more advantageous to become well acquainted with the most striking scenes and objects. We will therefore assume that a visit to Chatsworth and Haddon will occupy one whole day.

The road is beneath the Tor, passing Matlock village on the left, and crossing Matlock Bridge. Between this point and Rowsley, a beautiful view occurs of Darley Dale. Soon after leaving Rowsley on the left the "Palace of the Peak" becomes visible, surrounded by the most beautiful trees and undulating ground, forming a prospect where nature and art seem to have vied with each other to produce the most happy effect. The woodland scenery of the park is graced

by the refreshing waters of the river Derwent, which passes through it, and over which an elegant stone bridge is thrown, built by Payne from a design said to be by Michael Angelo. Behind the house, which forms the middle distance in the picture, rises a gently sloping hill, shadowed by broad masses of thick foliage, and beyond are seen the romantic hills which skirt the Peak of Derbyshire.

We next pass the village of Beeley, the neighbourhood of which is famous for large mill-stones, which are sent to all parts of the kingdom. A private entrance to the park is next passed, and we soon reach the bridge over which the public road is carried. This public entrance is near the pretty little village of Edensor, but the unassuming appearance of the gate and the porter's lodge would not lead any one to imagine the magnificence which reigns within. Edensor is situated within the park, and here there is an excellent inn for the accommodation of visitors.

Chatsworth was among the domains originally given by William the Conqueror to William Peveril, one of his

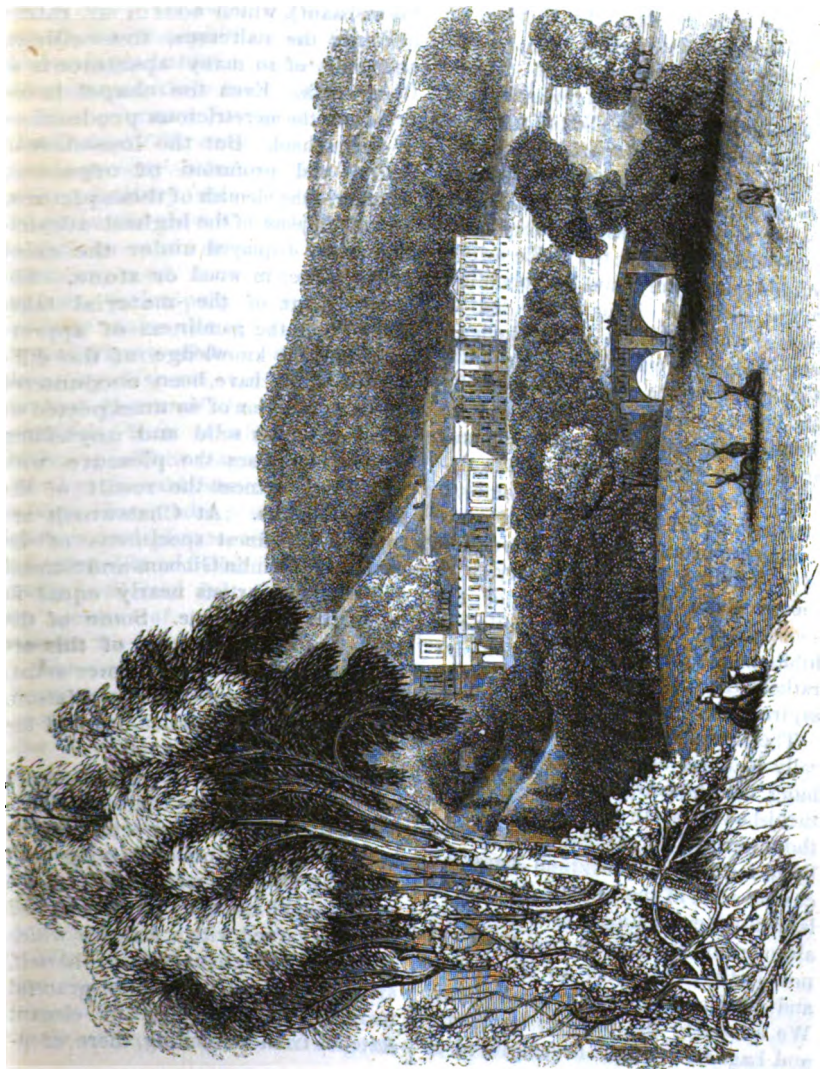
attendants, but it afterwards passed into the noble family of Cavendish, and has ever been a favourite residence of the earls and dukes of Devonshire. The plan of the present building was the production of William Talman, a native of Wiltshire, who was comptroller of the works in the reign of William III.; and the greater portion was built under his superintendence; but the whole extent of the original design has only been carried out by the present duke and his predecessor, who have not only completed the intentions of the architect, but have added considerably to the original plans, and improved the appearance of the whole. Talman was also the architect of Denham House, Gloucestershire, and old Thoresby House in Nottinghamshire.

Chatsworth was for some time the residence or prison of Mary Queen of Scots, a circumstance which has caused her name to be given to a suite of apartments in the building, which, however, we need scarcely say, she never could have occupied. It was here also that Hobbes, "the great Leviathan," passed many of his days, having early in life been received into the Devonshire family, and retained its confidence to his death. This hospitable domain was also, for a short period, the residence of Marshal Tallard, who was taken prisoner by the Duke of Marlborough at the battle of Blenheim. On taking leave of the Duke of Devonshire, after his visit, he is reported to have said, with the

happy politeness of his nation, "When I return to France, and reckon up the days of my captivity in England, I shall leave out all those I have spent at Chatsworth."

The house is composed of four nearly equal sides, with an open quadrangular court within, forming the portion first completed, but to this have since been added extensive wings and additional buildings. The sides of the court have open balconies, guarded by stone balustrades, which are divided into different sections by 22 intervening parts forming pedestals, on which are placed busts, carved in stone, representing some of the most distinguished men of the reign of Queen Anne. The middle of the court is occupied by a marble statue of Arion seated on the back of a dolphin, round which the clear water of a fountain is continually playing, falling into a capacious basin of Derbyshire marble below. This figure is sometimes called Orpheus, but it seems more probable, as suggested by Mr. Rhodes, that it was intended to represent Arion, the musician and poet of Lesbos. There are also several other sculptures in the court, besides the ornamental carvings of the building, the best of which however (on the exterior) are those on the principal front of the house, which presents a very imposing appearance.

But however faultless a building may be considered, there are never wanting critics who pretend to discover imperfections, which only exist



[Chatsworth.]

in their own minds. Mr. Rhodes, in his elegant delineation of 'Peak Scenery,' mentions that he "once heard an eminent artist remark, that the principal fault in Chatsworth was an apparent want of apartments suited for the accommodation of the domestics of so princely a mansion. It is a palace to the eye, where every part seems alike fitted for the noble owner and his guests only, and on beholding it the spectator is naturally led to inquire where the servants of such an establishment are to abide." We doubt if such reflections would be made by any but a professional person, and we should imagine that the art to conceal or disguise the residences of the domestics, or the places where domestic occupations are carried on, is of paramount importance in the construction of a building in which every part should claim the admiration of the spectator, and, where successfully exhibited, should claim the encomium rather than the blame of all who aspire to architectural taste.

The rooms of this palace are generally spacious and lofty, some of them hung with tapestry, and all elegantly furnished; but in the decorations of those parts of the mansion which have been left in their original state, the chaster taste of the present day has to lament the employment of artists, who, although fashionable in their time, are now justly condemned for the flutter and gaudiness of their productions. We allude to the pictures by Verrio and Laguerre (whom he employed as

his assistant), which adorn, or rather disfigure the staircases, the ceilings, and walls of so many apartments at Chatsworth. Even the chapel is not free from the meretricious productions of this school. But the looseness of design and profusion of ornament, which are the blemish of these pictures, become objects of the highest admiration when displayed under the chisel of the carver in wood or stone. The sober colour of the material takes away from the gaudiness of appearance, and the knowledge of the difficulties which have been encountered in the production of so unexpected an effect from its solid and unyielding nature, increases the pleasure with which we witness the result of the artist's labours. At Chatsworth are some of the finest specimens of the carving of Grinlin Gibbons and Samuel Watson, two artists nearly equal in talent, if not in fame. Some of the most beautiful specimens of this art at Chatsworth are by the former artist, but the greater portion is by Watson, whose receipts for the sums paid for the work are still preserved.

Nothing can be imagined more beautiful than the carvings which decorate the walls of Chatsworth. There is, particularly, a net containing dead game, by Gibbons, which exhibits the perfection of the art; while fruit and flowers, carved with a delicacy which rivals the productions of Nature herself, are flung around in the most graceful manner; here hanging in elegant festoons from the ceiling, there drop-

ping down the walls and sides of the doors, as though Pomona and Flora had mingled their treasures, and made Chatsworth their storehouse.

The pictures in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth are not very numerous, but there is a long gallery near the entrance-hall lined with several hundreds of fine drawings and sketches by the old masters; and there are several fine statues, principally collected by the present duke—among them the celebrated figure of the mother of Napoleon, by Canova, and the exquisite bust of Petrarch's Laura, by the same sculptor, both of which are in the library. This magnificent room is worthy the valuable collection of books which it contains; and besides the statues and pictures with which it is adorned, it contains two porphyry vases, received from Russia, which, on account of their size and beauty, attract the attention of every visitor.

The fine park which surrounds the house, and the gardens teeming with everything rare and beautiful which the floriculturist could desire, have, under the fostering care of the Duke of Devonshire, whose taste on such matters is appreciated by all engaged in similar pursuits, become among the most celebrated in the kingdom for the beauty and exquisite order of their arrangements.

We will now, however, briefly notice the apartments through which visitors are shown. Entering the vestibule, which contains busts and figures

from the antique, we pass by a corridor into the great hall, which is decorated with paintings by Verrio and Laguerre, representing the most remarkable events in the life of Cæsar. The State Apartments are next visited. In these rooms are the celebrated carvings of game, fish, fruit, flowers, &c., which have rendered Gibbons so famous in this department of art. The ceilings are enriched with a series of allegorical paintings by Verrio. The dining-room, drawing-room, music-room, and state bed-room, are comprised in this suite, the entire length of which is 190 feet. The south galleries contain nearly 1000 original drawings by the most eminent masters of the Italian, Venetian, Flemish, and Spanish schools of art. This collection is quite unique in its way. The billiard-room contains Landseer's fine picture of "Bolton Abbey," in the olden time, and numerous other paintings. The chapel is wainscoted and seated with cedar, the fine scent of which is immediately perceived on entering. It abounds in carved and sculptured ornaments, which are appropriate to the place, but it is also crowded with paintings which break the chastity of its appearance. When paintings are introduced into places of this character, they should reflect the dignity and purity of the religion the temple of which they are to grace; here, however, the productions of Verrio's pencil distract the attention and lead the thoughts from the contemplation of religion to the follies of

the world ; for although the chapel at Chatsworth boasts of the master-piece of Verrio, the glitter of art so super-sedea the sentiment of nature, that little of the latter finds its way to the mind. That great satirist of the vices of mankind, who censured all—but himself—for the follies they were guilty of, has not let the productions of these painters escape his lash—

“ And now the chapel’s silver bells you hear,
That summon you to all the pride of prayer ;
Light quirks of music, broken and uneven,
Make the soul dance upon a jig to heaven.
On painted ceilings you devoutly stare,
Where sprawl the saints of Verrio and Laguerre.”

The series of rooms called the Drawing-room suite, with the library, and the apartments in the new wing, form a connected suite extending over an area of nearly 750 feet long. These rooms are furnished in a style of elegant and costly magnificence, and contain a few splendid pictures, though the collection is not numerous. The library is about 90 feet by 22, with painted ceiling by Louis Charon. The ceiling of the next room, which is called the Ante-library, is painted by Hayter and Landseer. Between this and the dining-room is a small room with a highly-ornamented dome supported by columns of oriental alabaster with pedestals and capitals of great beauty. The dining-room is about 58 feet by 30 feet, and 25 feet in height. The sideboards are formed of very beautiful slabs, mounted on richly embossed and burnished gold frames. The two chimney-pieces are very beautiful, and are sculptured with

figures of the size of life by Westmacott, jun., and Sievier. The room between the drawing-room and sculpture-gallery is fitted up for the accommodation of a musical band.

If the collection of pictures at Chatsworth be surpassed in many other of our noble mansions, it excels them in works of sculpture. The sculpture-gallery is a very fine apartment, lighted from the top. The walls are of polished variegated grit-stone, and have that simplicity of tone and colour so well calculated to heighten the effect of the many exquisite works of art in this exhibition. Some of them are by Canova, Thorwaldsen, Chantry, Wyatt, Westmacott, and other distinguished foreign and native artists. The vases, columns, pedestals, obelisks, brackets, slabs, are many of them objects of great beauty, either from their exquisite workmanship, or the beauty of the material, or from these combined. The various objects of interest will be pointed out to visitors, and we must now leave this room, which is certainly the glory of Chatsworth.

The orangery is the next in succession. It is 180 feet long, 27 wide, and 21 feet high, lighted by a glass roof and by 11 windows of plate-glass. Some of the trees were selected from the fine orangery of the Empress Josephine at Malmaison. There are three specimens of *Rhododendron Arboreum*, one of which bore upwards of 2000 flowers in the summer of 1840. Some beautiful bassi-relievi are in this room as well as in the sculpture-gallery. At

the northern end of the orangery there is a communication with the baths and ball-room. Over this is an open temple which commands very extensive prospects. The distance from the bath-lobby to the great drawing-room is 557 feet; and as all the doors of the suites of rooms comprised between these two points are of the same width, and opposite each other, a vista of singular length and beauty is disclosed.

A flight of steps leads from the orangery to the flower-garden. On each side of the descent are representations of the Dogs of Alcibiades, and the extremity of each balustrade is occupied by a splendid vase of Swedish porphyry beautifully spotted with crystals of feldspar and highly polished. A carriage-drive leads to the Grand Conservatory and Arboretum; and, in another direction, we descend by a flight of steps to the green-house. The lawn in front of the green-house contains beds of shrubs and flowers laid out in the oriental style, and there are 16 busts on pedestals occupying the sides of the walks. One of the figures is a colossal statue of Flora; and there are two figures of Isis and Osiris in granite, from the Great Temple at Carnac.

The Water-works and the Great Cascade were designed a century ago by a French engineer, and once gave great celebrity to Chatsworth, but the taste for playthings of this kind has passed away, and they now excite little interest. They are situated to the south and south-east of the house, and

when in play, a vast body of water rises from a square building, surmounted by a dome ornamented with lions' heads, dolphins, sea-nymphs, and other figures, through which it falls into a basin below, and then descends a series of 24 ledges for about 300 yards, when the stream disappears amidst masses of rock, and passes beneath the lawns to the river. The "Willow Tree" consists of a series of jets d'eau, the pipes of which are in the form of a decayed tree. One of the fountains opposite the south front throws up the water 90 feet. A Cyclopean aqueduct is now constructing, which is designed, by a fall of about 150 feet, near the first reservoir, to form a connecting link with the water-works. Mr. Adam, in the 'Gem of the Peak,' states that the aqueduct "is being constructed of the loose blocks of the grit-stone which abound on the cliff, and no mortar or tool-mark is suffered to appear on the exterior. The elevation of the last arch which was formed [there are several now completed] is about 79 feet."

We now proceed to the Grand Conservatory (300 feet long by 145 feet wide) by a winding carriage-road, and enter by an archway over which a terrace-walk is carried, extending round the whole of the conservatory, and planted on each side. "The elevation of the central coved or arched roof is 67 feet, with a span of about 70 feet, resting on 2 rows of elegant iron pillars 28 feet high, and about equally dividing the building." Such is the

scale of this magnificent Conservatory, which, from an elevation of about 5 or 6 feet from the ground, is one mass of glass frames. Each plate of glass, about 2 feet long by 4 inches wide, is placed diagonally to that of the horizontal plane, in order to resist the effect of hail-storms. The surface of the interior is undulating, and comprises an area of about an acre, in the centre of which is a carriage-road, the plants being distributed in open borders, each class in the soil peculiar to it, and the degree of temperature is applied and regulated in a manner which is most conducive to the healthy and flourishing state of each class of plants in the different beds. The tubes for conveying hot and cold water are said to be about six miles in length. A view of the whole of the interior may be obtained from a circular gallery at the base of the dome, the access to which is by a series of rustic steps amidst arches and rock-work of a similar character, which winds over an elevated piece of ground covered with the choicest shrubs and plants. Mr. Adam says that a tunnel with a line of rails is also carried round the whole exterior for the purpose of obtaining access to the stoves and the pipes for conveying water. To realize an idea of the conservatory at Chatsworth, the best plan is to visit it. Nothing of the kind was ever before planned on so gigantic a scale.

The Arboretum covers several acres, is sheltered and protected from the northern and eastern winds; and here

exotic trees and shrubs are becoming naturalized under the scientific care of Mr. Paxton, the principal horticulturist. The *jardins à potager* are 12 acres in extent, and contain 22 hot-houses and numerous forcing-pits.

And now, having beheld the chief features of that princely magnificence for which Chatsworth is so highly celebrated, we would fain linger within its domains, which abound with picturesque and romantic views. Mr. Rhodes, in speaking of the beautiful views which abound at Chatsworth, mentions one with which he was particularly pleased, in the following manner:—"A little to the left was the building, backed with broad and ample foliage; cattle reposing in groups on the bank of the river, or cooling themselves in the stream, adorned the foreground; and the middle and remote distances, which were ornamented with a palace, a bridge, and towers and temples, disclosed altogether a scene as rich and as lovely as the fancy of Claude Lorraine ever portrayed when under the influence of his happiest inspirations. Yet the foreground had more of Berghem than of Claude in it: the respective features which constitute the peculiar charms of excellence of these great masters were most harmoniously combined; every part was in character, and the whole was faithful to nature."

The road from Chatsworth to Bakewell, to which place we will now conduct the tourist, is equally striking for its beauties. Mr. Adam, who pos-

sesses a discriminating taste for the picturesque, and extensive geological and mineralogical attainments, remarks, after leaving Edensor inn :—
 “On attaining the elevated ground, the ridges and peaks of the moorland, which were partly hidden by the beautiful knolls of the park, were laid open before us, in all their blackness, loftiness, and massive outline, skirting the horizon to the east and north for many miles. The crags of the grit are most imposing, having such a gloomy appearance. The bare faces and the broken fragments are strewn thickly, like hailstones, on the shelving sides of their elevated escarpments and in the deep ravines which traverse them, and assume a very dark colour by oxidation, owing partly to the decayed moss and heath which cover them. This is particularly the case on each side of the road seen to the eastward, which winds its way under the black crags and over the high moors to Sheffield. Tracing the ridges to the northward, the eye is carried forward to Calver, Middleton Dale, and to the high mountains of the Peak by Castleton : to the westward the bold limestone ridge of Longstone Edge is very striking.”

The distance from Chatsworth to Bakewell is not more than 4 miles ; but the usual plan is to proceed by Pilsley, and crossing the Sheffield and Bakewell road, to keep to the north of Bakewell to Ashford and Monsal Dale. The Earl of Newburgh has a seat near the village of Hassop, about

a mile distant from our present course. ASHFORD is a chapelry within the extensive parish of Bakewell, and is situated at the extremity of the Demon's Dale, though there is little of the wildness which would render such a name appropriate, the scenery of this part of Derbyshire being in fact of a kind very different from that of the bleak and rugged district which it so immediately adjoins. The Wye runs through the village, which, from its low situation, is frequently called Ashford-in-the-Water. The population is about 700, who are employed in agriculture, the cotton manufacture, and in the marble-works. These works were established by Mr. Watson, of Bakewell, about a century ago, for sawing and polishing the black and grey marbles found in the vicinity. They were next in the hands of Mr. John Platt, architect, of Rotherham ; then of Mr. Brown, of Derby ; and they are now in the possession of Oldfield and Co. The process of sawing, grinding, and polishing the marbles is by massive wooden machines which are put in motion by a water-wheel. From the quarry on the opposite side of the Wye is obtained the finest and purest black marble in the world. Mr. Adam says :—“ The present quarry has a bearing of at least 40 feet above it of bad measures, as they are called, and the good black consists of 9 beds, varying from 3 to 9 inches in thickness, with thin alternating beds of shale and chert or black flint, sometimes also existing in black nodules

It is difficult to raise a perfect slab of more than 6 or 7 feet long and from 2 to 5 feet wide." Adam and Co. have workshops at Ashford, where they prepare the productions of foreign as well as the Derbyshire quarries, which are worked into objects of ornament and use. The neighbourhood of Ashbourn is interesting to the geologist, and the Wye is a great attraction to the angler and the artist. Ashford Hall is the residence of the Hon. G. H. Cavendish, M. P. for North Derbyshire.

Monsal Dale bursts suddenly upon the sight in passing from Ashford to Wardlow. This spot presents one of the most delightful scenes in Derbyshire. It is a verdant and smiling landscape surrounded by barren and bleak hills. The authoress of 'Vignettes of Derbyshire' remarks:—"The Wye seems to have changed its characteristics under the influence of this sylvan vale, and no longer foams over a rocky channel or forces its way through narrow defiles, but expands its glossy surface to the smooth banks of the beautiful meadow-land that divide it from the base of the mountain. Two or three rustic dwellings, in perfect harmony with the scene, diversify the level of the valley: they are shaded by the finest ash-trees that grow in Derbyshire, whilst their descendants grace the rising hills in little groups or single trees, and throw their shadows on the bright green turf from whence they spring; the mountains rising above them, from which the

rocks start in light pinnacles or rounded turrets, the shining ivy at all seasons of the year decking their silver sides with its evergreen beauty. The river, after having spread itself in a beautiful expanse, winds eastward out of the dale, its termination hid by the projecting headland." The next opening of the dale is called Cressbrook Dale. On the heights which overlook Monsal Dale was a large barrow, about 160 feet in circumference, which contained several human skeletons, urns of coarse clay, slightly baked, in which were burnt bones, beaks of birds, &c. Arrow-heads of flint were found, and the whole remains were evidently of a high antiquity. It is nearly half a century since the barrow was destroyed for the sake of obtaining the masses of limestone used in its construction.

Again passing through Ashford we reach Bakewell, a place of great antiquity. It is first mentioned in the reign of Edward the Elder, who, according to the Saxon Chronicle, in the year 924 marched with his army from Nottingham to Badecanwillan, which was the original name of Bakewell. Edward, in the same year, ordered a "castle" to be built in the neighbourhood, which has generally been translated a burgh or town (see Lysons's 'Magna Britannia,' vol. v. p. 24). The Castle Hill is a knoll on the east bank of the River Wye, opposite the bridge: it retains traces of the keep, &c. Bakewell stands on the west bank of the Wye, about 2 miles above its influx into the Derwent. According to Camden, it

derives its name from a mineral spring and an ancient bath in the place, which are supposed to have been known to the Romans. "The latter spring," says the same authority, "bubbles up warm water, which is found by experience to be good for the stomach, nerves, and the whole body." In the 'Domesday Survey' the name of the place is written *Badequella*, and was soon afterwards corrupted to that of *Bauquelle*, whence the change to its present name was very easy and natural. There is no evidence to prove that Bakewell was a Roman station. A Roman altar discovered in the meadows about a mile south of Bakewell, near Haddon, is at present in the porch of the old dining-room at Haddon.

William the Conqueror gave Bakewell to his natural son William Peveril. The son of the latter having forfeited all his heritable property in the reign of Henry II., King John, soon after his accession to the throne, granted the manor of Bakewell to Ralph Gernon, in whose family it remained for some time. From the Gernons it came by marriage ultimately to Sir Roger Wentworth, who sold it, in the reign of Henry VII., to the Vernon family, who afterwards disposed of it to the Duke of Rutland, in which family it still remains. Bakewell had a bailiff and burgesses in the time of Elizabeth, but it never sent members to parliament. In the town there is a cotton manufactory, established by the late Sir R. Arkwright, which

carries on business to a considerable extent. A number of the inhabitants are employed in the lead-mines and stone-quarries which are found in the neighbourhood. The parish church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient and handsome structure situated on an eminence. The workmanship exhibits specimens of the style of three different periods. It is built in the form of a cross, and had once an octagonal tower in the centre, from which a lofty spire rose; but the tower and spire have been taken down. The western part of the nave is of plain Saxon architecture; but the external arch of the west door-way is enriched with Saxon ornaments. The rest of the building is in the Gothic style. The west part of the present church is probably as old as the eleventh century. Part of it was built in the thirteenth, part in the fourteenth, but the greatest part in the fifteenth century. A very liberal subscription has been made towards effecting the thorough repair and restoration of this ancient edifice. In the interior of the church, against an arch on the south side of the nave, is a very curious monument to the memory of Sir Godfrey Foljambe and his lady. The former died in 1376 and the latter in 1383. They were the founders of a chantry in Bakewell in the reign of Henry III., which was destroyed at the Reformation. The monument, though somewhat defaced by time, is still remarkably beautiful. The arms upon it are evidently those of Foljambe and Dar-

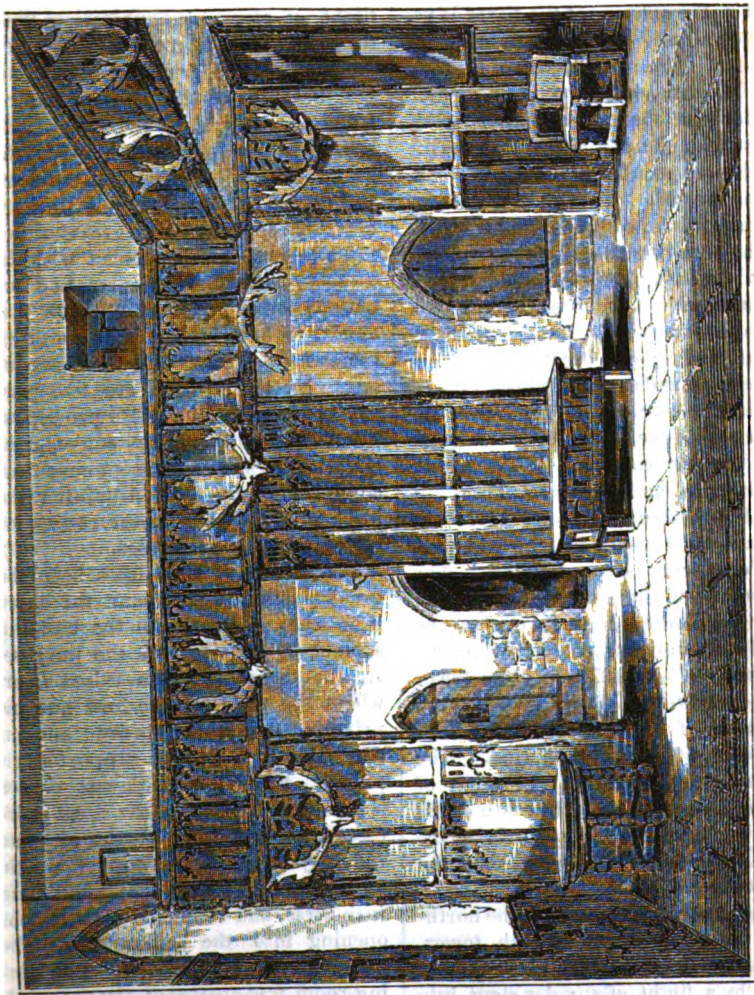
ley. The figures are half-length, and rather smaller than life. They are carved in alabaster in alto-relievo, under a canopy. In the vestry, within the south transept of the church, is a monument with the effigies in alabaster of a knight in plate armour, mail gorget, and pointed helmet, with a richly-ornamented bandeau, his pillow supported by angels. According to tradition, and the almost unanimous opinion of antiquarians, this monument is that of Sir Thomas Wendesley, generally called Wensley, who lost his life in the reign of Henry IV., at the battle of Shrewsbury. In the middle of the chancel are the tombs of several individuals of distinction.

In the parish of Bakewell, which is the most extensive in the county, being more than 20 miles in length and upwards of 8 in breadth, there are 9 parochial chapelries. The parish comprehends 15 townships, and contained in 1831 a population of 9503. The population of the township of Bakewell at the same period was 1898. The parish is stated in the 'Domesday Survey' to have had two priests. In the first year of his reign, King John granted the church of Bakewell, then collegiate, with its prebends and other appurtenances, to the canons of Lichfield, to whom it was afterwards appropriated. At that time there were three priests who constantly officiated in the church, and for whom a sufficient maintenance was provided. In consequence of the above grant, one of the prebendaries of Lichfield engaged

to say mass for the souls of the king and his ancestors, in the cathedral of that city. In the year 1280 a complaint was made to the then Archbishop of Canterbury, that the deacon and sub-deacon of the church of Bakewell, then celebrated for its riches, were so indifferently provided for, that they were obliged to beg their bread, in consequence of which that prelate ordained, in the same year, that they should eat at the vicar's table, in consideration of which, he was allowed 10 marks per annum out of the rectory, in addition to the 20 marks which he previously received yearly for the performance of his clerical duties. The annual allowance to the deacon for clothes was a mark, and 10s. were given to the sub-deacon for the same purpose. The patronage of the vicarage of Bakewell still belongs to the dean and chapter of Lichfield.

The weekly market of Bakewell was formerly held on Monday; but for the last 30 years it has been held on Friday. Very little business of any kind is done in it. Bakewell has a free-school of ancient date, which is now kept in the town-hall.

The nearest station on the North Midland Railway is at Chesterfield, 12 miles from Bakewell (to which there is an omnibus which meets some of the principal trains): Sheffield is 16 miles distant; Buxton 12, Castleton 16, Matlock 10, Derby 27, and London 153. Leaving Bakewell, on our return to Matlock, we soon reach Had-don Hall, situated about 2 miles south



[Haddon Hall.]

of Bakewell, on a bold eminence which rises on the east side of the River Wye, and overlooks the pleasant vale of Haddon. The great charm of Haddon consists in the complete picture which it affords of the ancient baronial residence, with glimpses of the modes of life which were peculiar to the age in which it was erected. Though not now inhabited, it is in complete repair.

The high turrets and embattlements of this mansion, when beheld from a distance, give it the resemblance of a fortress. It consists of numerous apartments and offices, erected at different periods, and surrounding two paved quadrangular courts. The most ancient part is the tower over the gateway, on the east side of the upper quadrangle, and was probably built about the reign of Edward III.; but there is no evidence by which its precise date can be ascertained. The chapel is of the time of Henry VI., and the painted glass in one of the windows affords the date "Millesimo ccccxxvii," or 1427: and the tower at the north-west corner, on which are the arms of the Vernons, Pipes, &c., is nearly of the same period. The gallery was erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, after the death of Sir George Vernon; but no part of the building is of a date later than the sixteenth century.

The principal entrance, at the north-west angle, is under a high tower, through a large arched gateway that leads by a flight of angular steps into the great court: Near the middle of

the east side of the latter is a second flight of steps communicating with the great porch, over the door of which are two shields of arms carved in stone. On the right of the passage leading from the porch is the great hall, having a communication with the grand staircase and state apartments; and on the left, ranging in a line, are four large doorways, with great pointed stone arches, which connect with the kitchen, buttery, wine-cellar, and numerous small upper apartments that appear to have been used as lodging-rooms for the guests and their retainers. In the kitchen are two vast fire-places with irons for a prodigious number of spits, various stores, great double ranges of dressers, an enormous chopping block, &c. Adjoining the kitchen are various lesser rooms, for larders and other purposes.

The hall itself must have been the great public dining-room, for there is no other apartment in the building sufficiently spacious for the purpose. At the upper end is a raised floor, where the table for the lord and his principal guests was spread; and on two sides is a gallery supported on pillars. From the south-east corner is a passage leading to the great staircase, formed of huge blocks of stone rudely jointed; at the top of which, on the right, is a large apartment hung with arras, and behind it a little door opening into the hall-gallery. The hall was built before 1452. The dining-room was erected at a later period, when some change had taken place in

the forms of society, and the baron dined in the hall only on festive occasions.

On the left of the passage, at the head of the stairs, five or six very large semicircular steps, formed of solid timber, lead to the long gallery, which occupies the whole south side of the second court, and is 110 feet in length and 17 wide; but the height, which is only 15 feet, detracts considerably from its appearance. The flooring is of oak planks, which tradition states to have been cut out of a single tree that grew in the garden. The wainscoting is likewise of oak, and is curiously ornamented. The frieze exhibits carvings of boars' heads, thistles, and roses. In the midst of the gallery is a great square recess, besides several bay windows ornamented with armorial escutcheons. Near the end of the gallery there is a short passage that opens into a room having a frieze and cornice of rough plaster, adorned with peacocks' and boars' heads in alternate succession: an adjoining apartment is ornamented in the same manner; and over the chimney is a very large bas-relief of Orpheus charming the beasts, of similar composition. All the principal rooms, except the gallery, were hung with loose arras, a great part of which still remains; and the doors were concealed everywhere behind the hangings, so that the tapestry was to be lifted up to enable a person to pass in and out; but, for the sake of convenience, there were great iron hooks, (many of which are still in their places,) by means of

which it might be occasionally held back. The doors being thus concealed, nothing can be conceived more ill-fashioned than their workmanship. Few of them fit tolerably close; and wooden bolts, rude bars, and iron hasps, are in general their best and only fastenings.

The chapel is on the south-west angle of the great court. It has a body and two aisles, divided from the former by pillars and pointed arches. The windows afford some good remains of painted glass. By the side of the altar is a niche and basin for holy water. An ancient stone font is likewise preserved there. Near the entrance of the chapel stands a Roman altar about 3 feet high, said to have been dug up near Bakewell. The chaplain's room is an interesting old place. Here are a buckskin doublet, pewter plates and dishes, a match-lock of the seventeenth century, the chapel-bell, an old cradle, and other things calculated to convey an idea of the mode of living above two centuries ago. The hearth is encircled with a stone raised about three inches above the floor to serve as a fender.

The park originally connected with this mansion was ploughed up and cultivated above 60 years since. The gardens consist chiefly of terraces, ranged one above another, each having a sort of stone balustrade. The prospects from the leads and the watch-tower are extremely fine; and in the vicinity of the house is a sweeping group of luxuriant old trees.

This manor of Haddon was, soon

after the Conquest, the property of the Avenells, by the marriages of whose co-heirs it became divided between the families of Vernon and Basset in the reign of Richard I. But in the time of Henry VI. the estate had become the sole property of Sir Richard Vernon, whose last male heir, Sir George Vernon, who died in the seventh year of Queen Elizabeth, became so distinguished by his hospitality and magnificent mode of living, that he was locally called "the King of the Peak." By the marriage of one of this person's heiresses, who inherited the estate of Haddon, it came into the family of Mannors, in which it still remains, being the property of the Duke of Rutland. The hall remained the principal residence of this family until it was superseded, at the beginning of the last century, by Belvoir Castle, in Leicestershire. In the time of the first Duke of Rutland (so created by Queen Anne) seven score servants were maintained at Haddon Hall, and the house was kept open in the true style of old English hospitality during twelve days after Christmas. Since then the scenes of ancient hospitality and revelry have only occasionally been renewed within its venerable walls.

The Duke of Rutland has a shooting seat at Stanton Woodhouse, in Darley Dale, about half an hour's walk from Haddon. It is situated on a natural terrace overlooking this beautiful dale, which extends from the gates of Chatsworth to Matlock. The characteristic features of the dale are de-

scribed in Mrs. Sterndale's 'Vignettes' as consisting of "little cottages nestling beneath their elmy tufts; the sparry road winding along the course of the river; the handsome stone bridge of several arches that unites its banks, and the rising mountains on the opposite side, partially covered with pines and terminating in heathy moors."

The road descends from Stanton Woodhouse to the village of Rowsley, which is about a mile distant, where there is an excellent inn which is much frequented in the season by anglers. The Wye flows into the Derwent a little below the village. Chatsworth is 3 miles distant and Haddon 1½ mile. Crossing Rowsley Bridge we soon reach Matlock.

SECOND EXCURSION—TO DOVE DALE AND ASHBOURN.

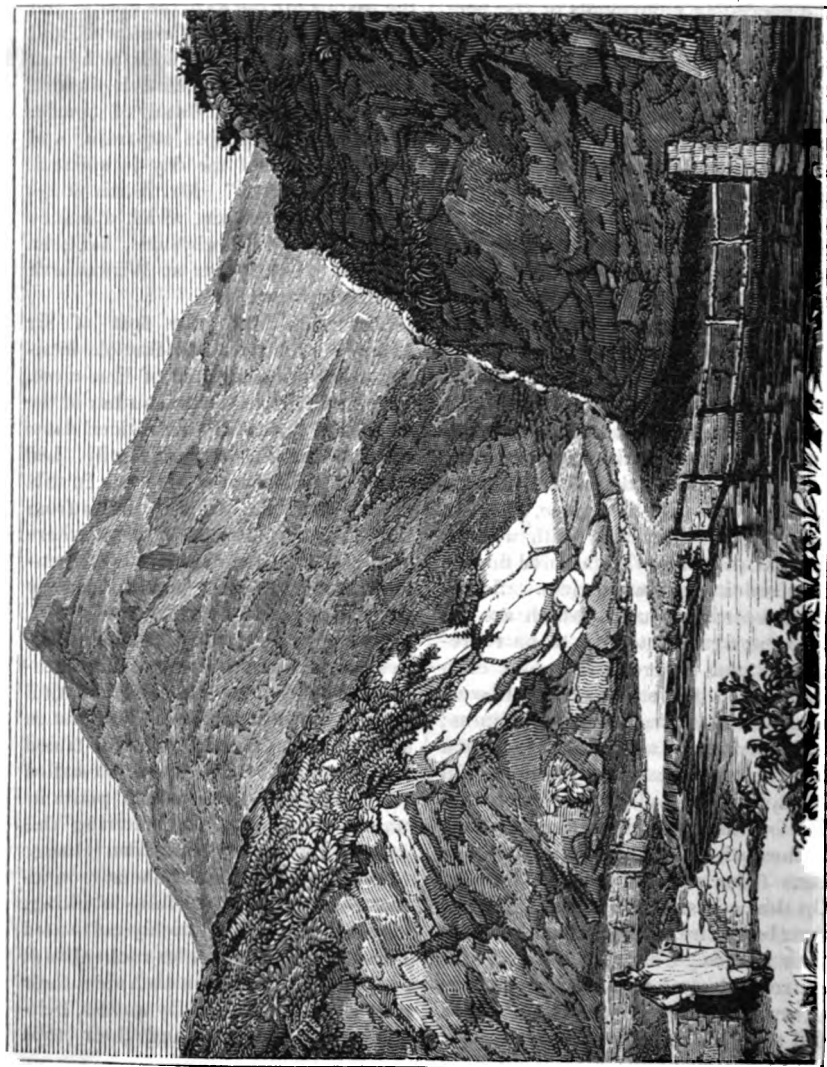
This excursion will occupy the pedestrian tourist two days, but it may easily be made in one day either on horseback or in a carriage. The distance to Dove Dale from Matlock is 13 miles, through a very delightful country. The road lies through Cromford, past Grange Mill, over Brassington Moor, under the High Peak Railway, and past Bradbourn Mill, then fording the Schoo, a tributary of the Dove, to TISSINGTON. At this little village there lingers a peculiarly graceful custom, one of those poetical usages of the olden time which have almost departed from the country, and the loss of which none could fail to regret were it not a necessary result of that risen standard in

the every-day enjoyments of the people, which, by affording many objects to interest the mind that did not formerly exist, and by diminishing the distance between the pleasures of ordinary and festival days, weakens the stimulus to their observance. The custom which gave occasion to this remark is thus described in the 'Peak Scenery':—"An ancient custom still prevails in the village of Tissington, to which, indeed, it appears to be confined, for I have not met with any thing of a similar description in any other part of Derbyshire. It is denominated 'Well-flowering,' and Holy Thursday is devoted to the rites and ceremonies of this elegant custom. This day is regarded as a festival, and all the wells in the place, five in number, are decorated with wreaths and garlands of newly-gathered flowers disposed in various devices. Sometimes boards are used, which are cut into the figure intended to be represented, and covered with moist clay, into which the stems of the flowers are inserted to preserve their freshness; and they are so arranged as to form a beautiful mosaic work, often tasteful in design and vivid in colouring. The boards thus adorned are so placed in the spring that the water appears to issue from amongst beds of flowers. On this occasion the villagers put on their best attire, and open their houses to their friends. There is a service at the church, where a sermon is preached; afterwards a procession takes place, and the wells are visited in succession;

the psalms for the day, the epistle and gospel are read, one at each well, and the whole concludes with a hymn, which is sung by the church-singers, accompanied by a band of music. After this the people separate, and the remainder of the day is spent in holiday pastimes." Mr. Adam states that the same custom, which was once more general in Derbyshire, has been revived of late years at Wirksworth and Youlgreave.

Tissington Hall, the seat of Sir Henry Fitzherbert, is a fine old mansion with a good avenue of lime-trees. The Rev. Richard Grave, author of the 'Spiritual Quixote,' who resided some time in the Fitzherbert family, laid some of the scenes of his work in this neighbourhood. About 2 miles from the hall is the village of THORP, where a guide may be obtained. The entrance to Dove Dale is within a very short distance of the village.

Of the varied scenery for which Derbyshire is so much celebrated, its numerous dales form the most beautiful and interesting portion. The first in size as well as beauty is the far-famed and romantic Dove Dale, so called from the River Dove, which pours its waters through it. On entering this enchanting spot, the sudden change of scenery from that of the surrounding country is powerfully striking. The brown heath or richly-cultivated meadow is exchanged for rocks abrupt and vast, which rise on each side, their grey sides harmonised by mosses, lichens, and yew-trees, and their tops



[Entrance to Dove Dale.]

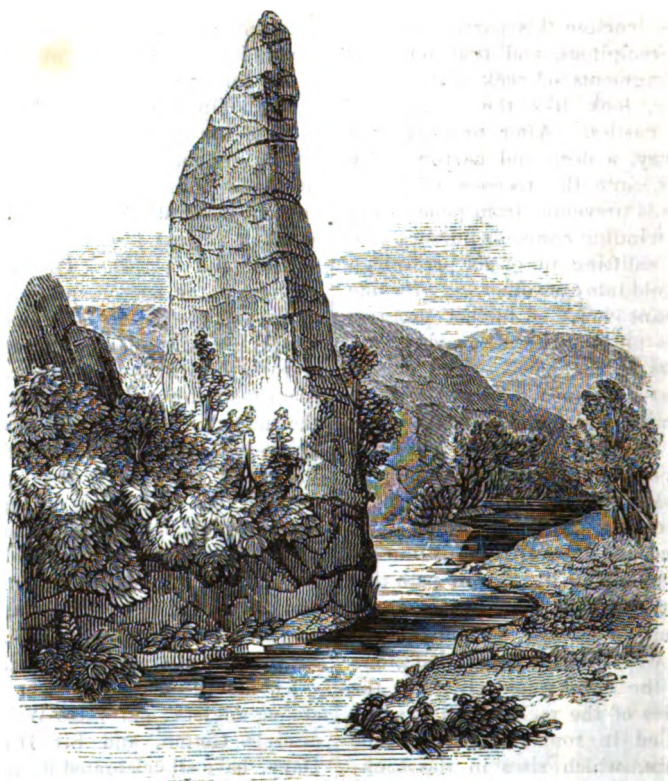
sprinkled with mountain-ash. The hills that enclose this narrow dell are very precipitous, and bear on their sides fragments of rock that, in the distance, look like the remains of ruined castles. After proceeding a little way, a deep and narrow valley appears, into the recesses of which the eye is prevented from penetrating by the winding course it pursues, and by the shutting in of its precipices, which fold into each other and preclude all distant view. A further progress exhibits an increase of majesty and rudeness in the scene. The objects which at a distance appeared to have been ruins, are found to be rude pyramids of rock and grand isolated masses, ornamented with ivy, rising in the middle of the vale. The rocks which enclose the dale, forcing their scattered and uncovered heads into the clouds, overhang the narrow path that winds through its dark recesses, and, frowning in craggy grandeur, and shaggy with the dark foliage that grows out of the chinks and clings to the asperities of the rocks, form a scene unrivalled in romantic effect. The mountain, which rises in the background of the view given above, is known by the name of Thorp Cloud. On proceeding about a mile into the vale, fantastic forms and uncouth combinations are exhibited in vast detached mural masses, while the sides of the dell are perforated by many small natural caverns which are difficult of access.

The length of Dove Dale is nearly 3

miles, and it is in no part more than a quarter of a mile wide, while in some places it almost closes, scarcely leaving room for the passage of its narrow river. On the right or Derbyshire side of the dale the rocks are more bare of vegetation than on the opposite or Staffordshire side, where they are thickly covered with a fine hanging wood of various trees and odoriferous shrubs and plants. The frequent changes in the motion and appearance of the transparent Dove, which is interspersed with small islands and little waterfalls, contribute to diversify the scenery of this charming spot; while the rugged, dissimilar, and frequently grotesque and fanciful appearance of the rocks, gives to it that peculiar character by which it is distinguished from every other in the kingdom. The view in the following page is of a very remarkable scene of this description, and cannot fail to be immediately recognised by every one who has had the pleasure of visiting the spot.

The Dove has long been famous among anglers; old Isaac Walton, his disciple Cotton, and Sir Humphry Davy, have all celebrated it, not only for the sport it afforded them, but for its natural charms.

Many of the visitors to Dove Dale take the opportunity of visiting Ilam Hall, on the Staffordshire side of the Dove. The mansion was erected a few years ago, and is in the Gothic style. It is not what is usually termed a "show house," but it may be seen by parties furnished with a note of intro-



[Scene in Dove Dale.]

duction to the proprietor, Jesse Watts Russell, Esq. The church is a venerable and picturesque edifice, and contains an interesting monument by Sir Francis Chantrey. The Hamps and Manifold, after pursuing a subterranean course, emerge near Nam within a short distance of each other.

The tourist who is not disposed to return to Matlock on the same day will find excellent accommodation at the inns in the adjacent town of Ashbourn, or, as it is frequently spelt, Ashburne, or Ashbourne: in ancient records it is written Esseburne. The town is pleasantly situated in a rich

valley not far from the east or left bank of the Dove. High hills shelter it from the cold winds of the north; and to the south-west it looks towards the valley mentioned above, where the Dove winds through some of the richest meadows in the kingdom. The church is in the form of a cross, with a tower rising from the centre, surmounted by a fine spire. The building was probably erected in 1241, as there is a memorial in brass of its dedication to St. Oswald in that year. It is in the early English style, and there are several good doorways. The walls and buttresses retain the characteristics of this early architecture; but several parts of the church are of later date, and of the decorated English or perpendicular styles. It contains many monuments of the Cokaine and Boothby families, especially a beautiful monument by Banks to the memory of Penelope, daughter of Sir Brooke Boothby, who died in 1791, at the early age of six years. The figure of the child asleep, in white marble, has been much admired. There was formerly a Presbyterian meeting-house in Ashbourn; and at present there are two places of worship, one for the General or Arminian Baptists, and one for the Wesleyan Methodists; as well as one for the Calvinistic Methodists (or Lady Huntingdon's Connexion), in the suburb of Compton, anciently Campdene, which is separated from the town on the south side by the rivulet Hemmore, or Schoo.

There is at Ashbourn a grammar-

school founded by Sir Thomas Cokaine and others in 1585; and a Mr. Spalden, who lived in the beginning of the 18th century, by his will (dated 1710), founded two elementary schools, one, for 30 boys and the other for the same number of girls. There are several almshouses in the town, which owe their origin to different benevolent individuals, especially to Mr. Spalden above mentioned and to Mr. John Cooper.

The market is on Saturday, for corn and provisions. There are no less than eight fairs, all for horses, horned cattle, and sheep: wool is sold at the fair in July, which is considered the smallest fair in the year. Ashbourn does not seem to possess any particular manufacture, unless it be of lace; but there are iron and cotton factories in the neighbourhood. The chief trade is in cheese and malt.

The parish is very large, and extends into three hundreds or wapentakes. It has three dependent parochial chapels, viz. Alsop-in-the-Dale, Hognaston, and Parwick. The population of the parish, including that of the town (the population of the town was 2246) and of the chapels, was 5699 in 1831, and the whole area was 16,490 acres. The living is a vicarage, of which the Dean of Lincoln is patron. The rectory of Mapleton is annexed to it. The rectory of Ashbourn was granted by William II. (Rufus) to the church of St. Mary, in Lincoln, and to the bishop of that see and his successors: but by some arrangement at a remote period it was attached to the deanery of that

see, and is now leased out by the dean. Ashbourn is in the archdeaconry of Derby, and the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry.

Ashbourn was the scene of some contests during the war between Charles I. and the Parliament. In Feb. 1644, the troops of the latter were victorious over the royalists. The young Pretender passed through Ashbourn in his retreat from Derby, in 1745.

Ashbourn Hall is the residence of Sir William Boothby, and in the neighbourhood is the cottage inhabited by Mr. Moore while writing 'Lalla Rookh.' Many of Congreve's letters are dated from Ashbourn. The scenery in the neighbourhood is very beautiful.

Ashbourn is 12 miles from Matlock and 13 miles from the Railway Station at Derby, 20 miles from Buxton, and 139 from London. Alton Towers, which is frequently visited by tourists from Matlock, is 9 miles from Ashbourn.

THIRD EXCURSION.

The druidical remains at Arbor Low, the Router Rocks, Robin Hood's Stride, the masses of rocks bearing the names of Roo Tor, Bradley Tor, &c., are all within a short distance of Matlock, and are objects of attraction to the antiquarian, the artist, and the lover of singular and picturesque scenery. The best plan of visiting them is to proceed through the hamlet of Winsley, and Winster, the latter a small market-town and chapelry in the parish of

Youlgreave. The rocks are on the right of Winster, near Router and Birchover, and on Stanton Moor.

The Router Rocks are at the southern extremity of Stanton Moor, a wild-looking rocky waste about 2 miles in length and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth. They consist of masses of grit-stone, some of them rising to the height of 150 feet, and are spread over a space about 80 yards long. These massive piles are placed in such a position as to appear partly a work of design; and though they may in some instances have been thus fixed, yet the general arrangement is undoubtedly natural. Router or Roo-tor Rocks have probably derived their appellation from the rocking-stones which were at one time found near the summit, the word "roo" being still a provincial expression for anything which rocks to and fro. There is at the east end of this mass of rocks a vast block weighing it is supposed about 50 tons, which could at one time be shaken by a very slight exertion, but it was immoveably fixed about 40 years ago by a party of young men who threw it out of its equilibrium. The bottom of this once moveable mass of rock is rather convex, and the rock on which it rests has a corresponding concave form. Near this block are several others still in a state of equilibrium and capable of being easily moved. About a quarter of a mile west of the Router Rocks is another assemblage of rocks somewhat similar in appearance, called Bradley Tor, on the upper part of which is a rocking-stone resting upon two stones,

which give it the resemblance of a doorway. The upper part, however, is of a globular form, resembling the Cornish Tolmén which Dr. Borlase was led to think had been a gigantic idol. On the south-west side of Stanton Moor there are three rocky eminences rising from a craggy ridge, and which bear the name of Carcliff Rocks, Graned Tor, and Durwood Tor. There are several rock-basins on the top of the former. Graned Tor is also called Robin Hood's Stride and Mock Beggar's Hall, from two masses of rock at each end which bear some resemblance to chimneys. Mr. Adam thus describes and accounts for the appearance of this singular mass of rocks:—"Two lofty masses occupy the top of an eminence which is fenced round by broken and rounded fragments of huge dimensions, and have the appearance of rocks still exposed to the action of water and the rolling in of heavy seas, which fret and foam through their rents and hollows at every tide, dashing their spray over their loftiest pinnacles. This illusion would be complete but for the dwarf oaks and hazel bushes which beautifully mantle their southern side. But the supposition is not simply conjectural as to their original condition, when viewed geologically, which supposes all our present continents to have been at one time under water; and the rolling in of these tides may have scooped out the hollow basins supposed by some to be artificial." This alludes to what are called "rock-basins," of which there are several on Graned

Tor. That some of these have been cut with tools is very probable, and is quite apparent in the case of one of an oval form 4 feet in length and 2 feet 10 inches wide. On the top of Durwood Tor are three basins, all probably artificial, and there is an overhanging crag, beneath which is what antiquarians have termed an "augurial seat." That this neighbourhood abounds with monuments of a very remote antiquity cannot be doubted, but the antiquarian is often tempted to invest with an historical interest objects which have been moulded into their present artificial form by the lapse of ages and the effects of the elements. Mr. Adam considers that "all the rock-basins, as well as the rocking-stones, are merely the effect of the elements for so many ages, which rage with immense fury on such elevated and exposed points. The grit-stone being particularly soft, and inadhesive in part, and that very unequally, the softer are easily fretted away by the action of every tempest, and hence the rounded, neat, and desiccated appearance of the rocks; and hence also the existence of such numerous oval and circular basins which occupy the summits, frequently filled with water. From the same cause the dome-like cavities arise, forming caves, &c., by the line of separation being curvilinear." If these tors, which are found with circles and rock-basins, were really used by the Druids, why, they must have found them there, and appropriated them to their purposes. "Here, too," say the authors of the

'Magna Britannia,' speaking of Derbyshire, "as in Cornwall, among the detached masses of grit-stone, many rocking-stones have been found, and rock-basins in abundance, and, as usual, ascribed to the Druids : but, as we have before observed, we are inclined to refer the greater part of these to natural causes ; indeed with respect to the round hollows in the grit-stone rocks, which have for ages been exposed to the effects of the atmosphere, we observed as many of them on the perpendicular sides of the rock as on the top."

It demands therefore some discrimination in determining the natural from the artificial and historical objects in these places. There is in fact a good deal of artificial work of comparatively recent date about the rocks and tors. Rude chairs and benches commanding extensive views have been chiselled out. At Durwood, however, an urn was discovered in the last century half full of burnt bones, and near it two ancient querns or hand-mill stones, the upper surfaces being flat and the under ones convex. One of these stones was about 4½ inches thick and nearly a foot in diameter, the under stone being much smaller.

An ancient work called Castle Ring, supposed to be a British encampment, will be found about a quarter of a mile west of the valley which separates Hartle Moor from Stanton Moor. It was of an elliptical form, 243 feet long by 165 feet wide at the broadest part. The ditch and double vallum by which was surrounded have been nearly

obliterated. Towards the north-west end of Stanton Moor there is a Latin inscription cut out upon two rocks about two centuries ago by the proprietor of the estate. There is a druidical circle on Stanton Moor, about half a mile north-east of the Router Rocks, called the Nine Ladies. It is eleven yards in diameter, and consists of nine stones of rude shape and irregular dimensions. Cairns and barrows exist in the neighbourhood, which, on being opened, were found to contain the remains of a comparatively uncivilized age. In one was found an urn of coarse clay, 10 inches in height and 3 feet 3 inches in circumference, and enclosing a smaller urn : both contained burnt bones and ashes. Human bones and a large blue glass bead were found under one of the cairns.

The most important druidical remains in Derbyshire are those of Arber Low, an elevated moor to the right of the road from Ashbourn to Buxton, a little beyond Newhaven Inn. Their form is that of an elliptical area of 52 yards by 46, (having the greater diameter in a direction north and south,) enclosed by a ditch 6 yards broad, and an outer bank formed of the soil thrown out from the ditch, 5 yards high on the inside. In the enclosure there are openings or entrances on the north and south sides about 14 yards wide, and adjacent to the southern entrance is a small mound or barrow. About 30 rough unhewn stones, 5 feet long by 3 broad, and 1 foot thick, lie round the enclosure, having their smaller ends point-

ing towards the centre : there is reason to think these once stood obliquely on one end. About 14 smaller stones are intermingled with these in an irregular manner, and there are three stones lying near the centre, one of which is larger than any other within the area.

FOURTH EXCURSION.—TO WINFIELD MANOR-HOUSE AND HARDWICK HALL.

A visit to these places from Matlock may be made partly by railway or entirely by the country roads. In the former case the tourist will proceed to the Amber Gate Station, 6 miles from Matlock, by the road already described, and take the train to the WINFIELD STATION, from which the ruins are not a mile distant. Then returning to the station he will take another train to the TUPTON STATION, 4 miles from Winfield, and will then have a pleasant walk across the country, past North Winfield church. Hardwick is about 4 miles from the Tupton Station. Both Winfield Manor and Hardwick Hall are noticed in a previous chapter (pp. 70 and 72).

The tourist who proceeds to these places on horseback or in a carriage will pass by Lea, Holloway, and Crich, through a country of swelling eminences, which gradually subside on approaching the eastern side of the county. The small hamlet of Lea is in a very picturesque situation ; the hills around it are well wooded, and a clear stream runs through the village. A

hat-manufactory, a spinning-mill, and smelting-works are situated on this stream, and their machinery is put in motion by its current. These buildings do not destroy the picturesque appearance of the scenery, indeed iron-works frequently add to its effect, especially where the surrounding landscape has a character of wildness about it. Holloway is situated under a lofty crag composed of the millstone-grit ; and a mile beyond the village the road bends suddenly to the left, and we soon reach a deep and well-wooded ravine which Mr. Adam states “ separates the towering limestone mass of Crich Cliff from the lesser eminences of the millstone-grit.” This cliff is a lofty hill composed of the carboniferous limestone which has been uplifted through the different measures of shale and sandstone. It abounds in rich veins of lead ore, and the Wakebridge and Gingler mines have of late years been the most profitable in Derbyshire. Large quantities of lime are obtained from the quarries at Crich, which when burnt is very widely distributed, the North Midland Railway, to which there is a branch from Crich, having given new facilities for this purpose. The small market-town of Crich is in a bleak situation at one end of the cliff. There are extensive views in the vicinity, which include Masson Low and Middleton and Cromford moors to the north-west, and in other directions Crich Chace extending towards Belper, also the Shining Cliff, Longnor Woods, the landscape being a combination

of sylvan and cultivated scenes with those of a wild and more rugged character, the former predominating as we approach South Winfield, which is 2 miles from Crich. Here we touch upon the eastern edge of the Yorkshire and Derbyshire coal-field, which extends from Derby to Leeds. Crich Stand is a conspicuous object for many miles round, and from it the eye commands views into five different counties, and on favourable days a sight of Lincoln Minster. From the Manor

the road to Hardwick lies through the villages of South Winfield, Stretton, Morton, Tibshelf, and Hardstaff.

Winfield Manor-House, Hardwick Hall, and Newstead Abbey (the latter in Nottinghamshire) are sometimes visited by parties who set out from and return to Matlock in one day.

By the carriage-road from Matlock to Winfield and Hardwick the distance is about 17 miles, but pedestrians may take a shorter route.

CHAPTER VIII.

BUXTON.

Buxton may be advantageously selected as another central place in which the tourist may establish his quarters for a brief period, with a view of visiting the most interesting spots in the High Peak. The population of Buxton in 1831 was not more than 1211, while the hotels and lodging-houses are calculated to afford accommodation to 1500 visitors: 40 years ago the number of inhabitants was about 400, and 700 visitors could be accommodated. Buxton is 38 miles from Derby through Ashbourn, and is on the high road from London to Manchester, the latter place being 25 miles distant. The North Midland Railway will enable the visitor from London to reach Buxton in less than 12 hours. Arriving at Derby by the London and Birmingham and Midland Counties Railways, he will proceed by the North Midland Railway to the Amber Gate Station, where omnibuses for Matlock, and coaches for Buxton, await the arrival of the principal trains. The road to Matlock, 6 miles from Amber Gate, has already been described (p. 83). The road next passes through Bakewell and Ashford, the bold Peak of the Finn being on the right, and Tadding-

ton Moors on the left. Soon after crossing the Wye, the road brings us to the south opening of Monsal Dale. Another vale of great beauty, Taddington Dale, is at the extremity of Monsal Dale. As the road approaches the village of Taddington, rude masses of cliff and crag, and wood-crowned eminences, render the scenery very striking; and the moorlands rise in the distance and bound the horizon. The road above Taddington village is the most elevated in Derbyshire, and objects upon it, seen from the vale below Topley Pike, are diminished to a fairy size. The Wye forms a charming feature in the landscape as it pursues its course amidst fragments of rock which are scattered in its bed, and render its current turbulent and impetuous, offering a contrast to the deep and silent pools in which it here and there flows for a time in silence. The banks of the river are also highly picturesque, their steep, and in some parts perpendicular sides being clothed with patches of dwarf fir and underwood. The river emerges at a part of the dale called the Lover's Leap, and, with the road, passes between an opening in the limestone rock, the masses

of which on each side resemble a vast portal. The remainder of the road to Buxton is not particularly striking.

Buxton is situated in the lower part of a deep valley or basin, surrounded by bleak hills and extensive tracts of moorland. It would be entirely environed with mountains but for the narrow ravine down which the river Wye flows on its way to the Derwent, parallel with the high road which leads to Bakewell. Axe Edge, on the Leek road, 3 miles from Buxton, is, next to Kinder-scout, the highest mountain in the N.W. of Derbyshire, being 1000 feet above the valley in which Buxton Crescent stands, and 2100 feet higher than the town of Derby. From this mountain four rivers issue in opposite directions—the Wye, the Dove, the Goyte, and the Dane. Chee Tor, a perpendicular and stupendous rock of limestone 360 feet high, is situated near the village of Wormhill, and about 5 miles from Buxton. A few miles farther is Mam Tor, 1300 feet above the valley in which it stands; and a little east, the still higher peaks of Winhill and Lossill, which may be distinguished by their form from all the mountains in the county. The sterility which once formed the chief feature in the scenery round Buxton is fast disappearing. Extensive woods and plantations now clothe the sides and summits of many of the neighbouring hills.

Buxton consists of two parts, the old and the new town. The former stands upon much higher ground than

the latter, and has still the remains of a cross in the centre of the market-place. The main street is wide, and contains a few good inns and lodging-houses, but the buildings in general are old and low. This was formerly the only entrance from the west into Buxton, until a new road was made a few years ago, which avoids the old town and joins the London road at the church. The new part of the town may be said to begin at the Crescent and to stretch along the Bakewell road, the buildings of which form a handsome entrance to the town on that side, and afford many pleasant residences to those who seek more privacy than can be had at the public hotels.

The Crescent at Buxton is in the form of a segment of a circle. The basement story is a rustic arcade, forming a piazza 7 feet wide within. Over the arches a balustrade runs along the whole building. Above the piers are Doric pilasters that support an ornamental architrave and cornice, which is terminated by another balustrade, in the centre of which, cut out of stone, are placed the arms of the Cavendish family. This extensive and elegant structure is three stories high, and contains 378 windows. It comprises two hotels, a library, an assembly-room 75 feet long, and a news-room, besides the baths and a few private residences. The stables, as complete and extensive as the Crescent itself, occupy a large site of ground on the hill behind the chief structure, but divided from it by the main road. They are built in a

circular form, and have a covered ride 160 yards round. This immense pile of building was erected by the late Duke of Devonshire, in 1781, at a cost of 120,000*l*. The stone employed in the foundations and inner walls was found near the spot; and the fine freestone, used in the front and sides of the building, was dug out of a quarry not a mile distant.

At the western end of the Crescent, and nearly adjoining it, is the old hall, the most ancient building in the lower part of Buxton, having been erected in the reign of Elizabeth by the Earl of Shrewsbury, in whose custody Mary, queen of Scots, was placed. In one of her visits to Buxton, the queen occupied apartments in this building, which are still shown as hers, on one of the windows of which were scratched the lines said to have been written by her on her departure.

*Buxtona, quæ calidæ celebrare nomine lymphæ,
Forte mihi posthac non adenda, vale.*
Buxton, farewell! no more perhaps my feet
Thy famous tepid streams shall ever greet.

This house was considerably enlarged in 1670, and though inferior to the more fashionable hotels in the Crescent, is preferred by many families on account of its having baths fitted up within its walls.

The public baths at Buxton are very numerous, and are fitted up with every attention to the convenience of the visitors. The common tepid baths all lie together at the western end of the Crescent, forming a part of the lower story. Besides a public bath, around

two sides of which are numerous dressing-rooms, there are two private baths for gentlemen, and the same number for ladies. At the opposite end of the Crescent, adjoining the piazzas, are two hot baths, and vapour and shower baths, all heated by steam, which are supplied from what is called Bingham's Well. Most of these are lined with white marble, and the temperature of the hot baths is most accurately adjusted by an ingenious contrivance for the introduction of cold and hot water.

At the extreme end of the town, on the Macclesfield road, is a cold bath, said to be of the same temperature as the waters at Matlock (68° Fahrenheit).

The well at which the water is supplied to those who resort to it is in a small building, in the style of a Grecian temple, in front of the western wing of the Crescent. In the centre of this tasteful building, called St. Ann's Well, is a white marble basin, into which the water issues from the spring. By the side of this basin is a double pump, from which either hot or cold water may be procured within a few inches of each other. The spring flows at the rate of 60 gallons a minute, the water being somewhat colder than the waters at Bath, but warmer than those of Matlock and Bristol. Besides what is properly called the Buxton water, there is a chalybeate spring of a rough strong taste, issuing from a chalky stratum on the north side of the river Wye, at the side of the turnpike-road behind the Crescent, over which a neat stone structure has been erected by the Duke of

Devonshire, to preserve it for the use of visitors. Mixed with the other, this water proves purgative.

The waters of Buxton have a lower temperature than those of the southern or Gloucestershire and Somersetshire group, except Bristol. They are of the calcareous class of mineral waters, and rise in a valley situated on the west edge of the great limestone range, which extends through the county of Derby from Castleton southwards, comprising what is termed the Peak Forest. The surface of this district is occupied, according to Farey, by the outcrop of four strata of limestone and three beds of amygdaloid or toadstone, interposed between the limestone strata; but it should be observed that this division of the limestone by regular beds of toadstone has been stoutly denied, and at present is not generally received. Above the upper stratum of limestone is a coarse sand-stone or millstone-grit, considered by many as the inferior bed of the coal formation, which occupies the whole country east and north of this district. Buxton is immediately to the south of the outgoing of the lowest stratum of limestone. The limestone, which is of a whitish or yellowish colour, is full of encrinites, madrepores, and other organic remains. The direction of the strata is generally north and south. A remarkable fault is observed in the valley of the Derwent at Matlock: the upper bed of limestone on the western side of the valley is brought down below the second bed on the east, and the upper bed of toadstone on the one

side is nearly on the same level with the second bed on the other. The fault is said to extend north as far as Buxton, where it takes a north-western direction to North Bradwell, and terminates at Litton near Tideswell; but both the direction and extent of this fault have been much disputed. It is in the course of this fault that the thermal springs of Buxton and Matlock are found. That of Buxton possesses the higher temperature, viz. 82° Fahr., which never varies at any hour of the day or season of the year. This water has been long celebrated for its medicinal virtues. It is more remarkable for the nature of its gaseous impregnations than for the quantity or nature of its saline ingredients. By a recent analysis it appears to contain only 15 grains of solid contents in each wine-gallon. According to Mr. Gairdner its composition is—

Of gaseous contents—

	Cubic inches per Gallon.
Carbonic acid	1.50
Nitrogen	4.64
	<hr/> 6.14

Of solid contents—

	Grains per Gallon.
Hydrochlorate of magnesia . . . . .	.58
" soda	2.40
Sulphate of lime . . . . .	.60
Carbonate of lime	10.40
Extractive matter and vegetable fibres	.50
(Loss) . . . . .	.52
	<hr/> 15.00

Owing to the quantity of calcareous matter, the water is hard. It sparkles

a little when first received at the fount. It is exceedingly clear, and does not become turbid by long exposure to the air. Over the bath a stratum of vapour hovers, which is more or less dense according to the state of the weather and the degree of attention paid to the ventilation of the apartment. The chalybeate spring contains about half a grain of carbonate of iron in each gallon, and is a soft water.

The waters issuing from the warm spring are employed both internally and externally. A course of the water internally is generally taken at the same time as the baths are used; but in some habits of body the one mode only is admissible. Persons of the sanguineous temperament, especially if plethoric, can rarely take the waters internally, without at least previously undergoing some preparatory treatment,—either venesection, cupping, or the use of purgative medicines. During all acute inflammatory diseases they must be avoided; and though very beneficial to persons subject to gout and rheumatism, the waters must not be employed either when an attack of the disease is approaching, or while much pain of the joints remains when the disease is receding. Persons in whom the digestive organs are feeble, either naturally or from the effects of what is termed *good living*, derive, in general, much benefit from the internal use of these waters. In most cases they should be taken early in the morning, after the bath, if these two modes be employed simultaneously. The quantity to be used should

not at first exceed half a pint, taken in two equal portions, a quarter of an hour (during which the invalid will walk along the terrace when practicable) being allowed to intervene between the two glasses. About noon the same quantity should be again taken, observing similar rules. Some patients are however obliged to restrict themselves to its use during the forenoon, omitting the morning dose. No one should exceed a pint and a half in the course of each day.

The chalybeate water is sometimes used at the same time, and it is said that a mixture of the two forms a purgative draught. Upon the propriety of using the chalybeate at any period during his stay, the invalid must consult his medical adviser on the spot. It ought never to be used as a common drink, more particularly by persons of a plethoric habit of body.

The warm baths may be employed even by the most delicate persons, provided bathing in any form be proper. At first the stay in the bath should not exceed one minute, as the plunge is the most beneficial part of the process. The time may be gradually extended, but should never exceed fifteen minutes. Where a general bath cannot be borne by gouty or rheumatic patients, pumping the water upon the affected joints is frequently highly efficacious in reducing the swelling and restoring flexibility. During the use of the baths no mercurial medicines of any kind should be taken, unless under the direction of a competent medical adviser on the

spot. There is an excellent institution for enabling poor patients to avail themselves of the Buxton waters. It is supported by collections at two annual sermons, by subscriptions, and by the voluntary payment of 1s. from each visitor at Buxton. Several hundred patients are annually benefited by this charity.

The number of visitors at Buxton varies from 12,000 to 14,000 annually; as already stated, there are accommodations for 1,500 at one time. The season commences in June, and ends in October.

The church at Buxton is an elegant modern edifice, built in 1812 by the Duke of Devonshire, its patron, adjoining to which is a large burial-ground. The living is a perpetual curacy in the diocese of Lichfield. The building formerly used as a church is now converted into a school upon Dr. Bell's plan, having endowments which amount to 94*l.* per annum. There are places of worship in Buxton for Presbyterians, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists.

The market is held on Saturday; and the fairs on February 3rd, April 1st, and May 2nd, besides a cattle-fair on the 8th of September. The town is in the honour of Tutbury, duchy of Lancaster, and within the jurisdiction of a court held at Tutbury every third Tuesday, for the recovery of debts under 40 shillings.

The public walks at Buxton, of which there is great variety, are laid out with much taste, and ornamented

with shrubs and plantations. Walks have been formed and rendered very attractive along the banks of the Wye, the stream being deepened artificially here and there, while in others it is led over little cascades. The "Duke's Drive," made at the sole expense of the Duke of Devonshire, is partly carried along the heights which skirt Wye Dale, and commands wild and picturesque views. The environs of Buxton abound with natural curiosities and romantic scenery. The high perpendicular crags on the Bakewell road, bordering the valley of the Wye, make it the most interesting, as it is the most accessible of all the scenery in the immediate vicinity of Buxton. At the distance of about half a mile, in a different direction, are the limestone quarries and Pool's Hole. The latter is a cavern of considerable dimensions in a limestone rock, contracted in its entrance, but spacious in the interior. The sides of the mountain are partly occupied by dwellings, not built, but excavated out of the ashes which have been thrown out from the lime-kilns. A considerable quantity of lime is burnt here, and sent into distant parts by the Peak Forest Railway, which is near. At a little distance from the mountain beneath which is Pool's Hole, is a place called "Diamond Hill," from its furnishing specimens of quartz of an hexagonal shape, which are known by the name of Buxton diamonds, the whitest of which have the property of cutting glass. About five miles from Buxton, at Barmour Clough, by the side of the

road leading to Castleton, is an intermittent spring, called "the Ebbing and Flowing Well."

There are many shops in Buxton for the sale of the mineral productions of the Peak manufactured into various articles of ornament and use, besides fossils and specimens of natural curiosities. Among these is the beautiful spar, denominated "Blue John," for-

merly used in repairing the roads, but now worked into the most elegant vases, and purchased at the price of forty guineas a ton. This spar is found near Mam Tor or the Shivering Mountain, in the neighbourhood of Castleton.

We shall direct the tourist to some of the most interesting of these places in the next chapter.

CHAPTER IX.

EXCURSIONS FROM BUXTON.

THERE is no other county in England which affords such a variety of scenery as Derbyshire, or which presents so striking a contrast in geographical features as that which its northern and southern portions exhibit. The southern part of Derbyshire is a pleasant, fertile district, not distinguished in its general aspect from the other midland counties; but the northern abounds with hill and dale, and the scenery is often romantic and sublime. The country gradually rises for about 15 miles to the northward, and afterwards begins to assume that mountainous appearance which it continues to possess to the extremity. A chain of hills arises which extends to the borders of Scotland. These hills are at first of small elevation; but, being in their progress piled one on another, they form very elevated ground in the tract called the High Peak. The mountains of the Peak, although inferior to those of Cumberland, constitute the loftiest and most considerable range in the midland regions of the kingdom. The highest points are Axe-edge, which is 2100 feet above the level of Derby, and Kinder-scout, which is 1000 feet higher than the level of Buxton. About 700 emi-

nences and 50 rocky caverns, dells, and valleys, have been enumerated in the region of the Peak.

To commence with the places of interest in the immediate vicinity of Buxton: first we have Pool's Hole, distant only about a mile. This is a cavern in the limestone measure, the entrance to which is so low for the first 25 yards that the visitor is unable to walk upright. The fissure then widens into a spacious cavern, the roof of which displays spiral masses of stalactites, formed like icicles, by the dropping of water impregnated with calcareous matter. In other cases the water dropping on the floor constitutes masses of stalagmite, one of which, of great size, occurs nearly in the middle of the cavern, and is called the Flitch of Bacon. The cavern is here narrow, but soon after again widens and continues to do so until the visitor reaches a very large mass of stalactite called the Queen of Scots' Pillar, tradition having recorded that Mary during her sojourn at Buxton advanced thus far into the cavern. Few strangers proceed beyond this point, and there is nothing sufficiently interesting to repay them for the trouble: the cavern terminates

at about 95 yards beyond the pillar above mentioned. The passage by which visitors return is for some distance under the road by which they enter; and here also various masses of stalactite occur, the forms of which are constantly undergoing transformation, though they are called by some fancied resemblance which they once bore to particular objects. The charge made by the guides for showing the cavern is one shilling.

Diamond Hill is another short walk, being about 2 miles from Buxton. Here in a valley or ravine, between Grinlow and Landman's Low, are to be found the "diamonds." Mr. Adam states that these crystals belong to the limestone measures, which are often productive of fine quartz crystals. The ravine is traversed by the vein of a mine now worked for sulphate of barytes, the principal shaft of which is about a mile to the north-eastward, and the refuse of the old workings accumulated here has been probably brought from considerable depths. The crystals are often found perfect hexagons, terminated by six-sided pyramids; perfectly clear, others reddish brown, being coloured with oxide of iron, and are from an eighth of an inch long to one inch. From having found these crystals in a dell of the limestone near Winster, Mr. Adam is inclined to think that they originate in the toadstone, the disintegration of which proceeds rapidly whenever it is exposed.

Close to Diamond Hill there is a tower built by the Duke of Devonshire,

commanding a view of Kinderscout, Lord's Seat, Axe Edge, and other eminences in the Peak district.

Another excursion which attracts the visitors of Buxton is to Chee Tor, about 4 miles from Buxton. It is usual to have a guide to this mass of limestone rocks, which rises above 300 feet perpendicular from the river Wye, something like a half-moon battery in form. The rocks opposite rise from an elevation which ascends gradually from the margin of the river, and are of a concave or semi-circular form, Chee Tor itself being a bold convex projection. Its base is washed by the river, and upward to its summit neither lichens nor mosses colour its surface. The valley here has no other sounds than those which the waters make, and the scene, as well as the feelings which it creates, are singularly striking and impressive. Mr. Rhodes remarks that "it is scarcely possible to imagine a place more abundantly stored with picturesque materials and studies for the artist than this secluded dell."

Parties frequently make a point of visiting Miller's Dale, Cresbrook, Monsal Dale, and Ashford, at the same time as Chee Tor: the two latter places have been already noticed. In proceeding from Chee Tor to Miller's Dale there is an eminence overlooking the latter which commands a view of an extraordinary number of lofty peaks. Miller's Dale is one of the most beautiful of the minor dales: one end is bounded by Raven's Tor, an immense impending rock. The character of these

dales is thus described by Mr. Rhodes: "That part of Derbyshire, known by the name of the High Peak, is everywhere composed of a succession of hills, of a greater or lesser elevation, and intervening dales which play into each other in various directions. Throughout the whole the same general character prevails. A thin mossy verdure, often intermingled with grey barren rock, adorns their sides; and sometimes the interference of what Mr. Farey has denominated 'indestructible limestone rubble' disfigures their steep acclivities. Yet even then a little brushwood occasionally breaks in to enliven and diversify the otherwise sterile scene. These remarks particularly apply to the minor dales of Derbyshire. Those which form the channels of the principal rivers are of a more elevated description, and possess, in an eminent degree, that variety of object, form, and colour, which is essential to picturesque beauty, sometimes united with a magnitude of parts where grandeur and sublimity preside in solitary stillness. — Travellers, accustomed to well-wooded and highly cultivated scenes only, have frequently expressed a feeling bordering on disgust at the bleak and barren appearance of the mountains in the Peak of Derbyshire; but to the man whose taste is unsophisticated by a fondness for artificial adornments, they possess superior interest and impart more pleasing sensations. Remotely seen they are often beautiful. Many of their forms, even when near, are decidedly

good; and in distance the features of rudeness, by which they are occasionally marked, are softened down into general and harmonious masses. The graceful and long-continued outline which they present, the breadth of light and shadow that spreads over their extended surfaces, and the delightful colouring with which they are sometimes invested, never fail to attract the attention of the picturesque traveller."

From Raven's Tor there is only a path for foot-passengers, the carriage road leaving the Dale at the mill. The view on approaching Cressbrook is very extensive, commanding the peaks and lofty hills all round, while below lies the dale from which we have just emerged. Monsal Dale and Ashford complete the tour, and the tourist may return another way, by Taddington Dale.

A favourite pedestrian trip may be made to Axe Edge, 3 miles west of Buxton, the prospect from which, on a favourable day, embraces the mountains of North Wales in one direction. It attains an elevation of 1751 feet above the level of the sea, and four rivers, the Dove, the Wye, the Dane, and the Goyte, have their sources within its recesses, the two former flowing into the Humber, and the other two into the Mersey, the basin of the Humber and Mersey being divided by a ridge, one of the highest points of which is Lord's Seat, 1751 feet high. Mr. Adam observes that "from the summit of Axe Edge, the lower and beautifully wooded

valley and fine undulating eminences of the saliferous limestone seem to be laid out at the spectator's feet." The pedestrian will, we feel assured, be well repaid for the trouble of ascending this commanding point.

A visit to Combe's Moss, about 3 miles north-west of Buxton, will prove a gratifying morning's ramble. The road from Buxton to Manchester passes over the lower part of Combe's Moss; and at the distance of two miles from Buxton, the road attains an elevation of about 1500 feet above the level of the sea. Nothing but blank moors are seen around, and the whole aspect of nature is desolate; and yet on descending the inclined plane, a distance of 5 miles brings us to the rich meadows of Cheshire, which we enter by crossing the Goyte at Whaley Bridge; and there the valley is alive with a numerous population who are employed in the cotton-mills.

Towards the northern extremity of Combe's Moss are the remains of ancient military works, consisting of two deep trenches running parallel to each other for about 200 yards; that which is nearest to the edge of the hill being carried down the declivity to the extent of a quarter of a mile.

The Marvel Stone, about 3 miles from Buxton, on the right of the road to Chapel-en-le-Frith, an object of general as well as local interest, is thus described in Bray's 'Derbyshire Tour': "It is a rock of about 280 feet long and 80 feet broad at the widest part, but does not anywhere rise more than 3

feet above the surface of the ground." The face of it is indented with channels or gutters and holes of various sizes, there being scarcely anywhere four feet square of the surface, which is of a firm and hard nature, that is not thus indented and perforated, but there is no reason to believe that this has been artificially done.

EXCURSION TO CASTLETON.

Our next excursion will lead us to a considerable distance from Buxton, to another part of the High Peak, not less interesting from its natural curiosities than for its wild and rugged scenery. The drive to CASTLETON is described by Mr. Adam as "decidedly one of the most dreary in the Peak of Derbyshire, and the most like what the Peak originally was than any other part." Before the hand of cultivation had been at work in the northern parts of Derbyshire, hundreds of acres which now produce crops of oats, or are planted, presented a scene of sterility such as we find in the country betwixt Buxton and Castleton. The immediate vicinities of Matlock and Buxton, which in some parts assume an appearance of sylvan beauty scarcely to be expected there, owe their improvement to the care and industry of man during the last half century.

Castleton is 12 miles from Buxton, over the moors, through the bleak and inhospitable village of Sparrow Pit. At Fairfield the road turns to the left of Buxton race-course, but instead of

proceeding to Chapel-en-le-Frith by that road, we take another road to the right soon after passing the High Peak Railway. This road leads from Chapel-en-le-Frith to Castleton, and as we approach so near the former place we may take this opportunity of noticing it.

Chapel-en-le-Frith, 5 miles from Buxton, is a market-town and parish, and includes the townships of Bowden's Edge, Bradshaw Edge, and Coomb's Edge. The number of inhabitants is 3234, most of whom are employed in the manufacture of cotton or paper. The Peak Forest lime-works lie three miles east of the town, and communicate by railway with the Peak Forest Canal, which runs within three miles to the north-west, in consequence of the vicinity of which there is a large carrying trade here. There is a small market on Thursday, and numerous fairs in the course of the year for the sale of cattle, wool, and provisions. There are places of worship for the Episcopalians and Wesleyan Methodists. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, was rebuilt at the beginning of the last century. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the jurisdiction of the dean and chapter of Lichfield, having 400*l.* private benefaction, 400*l.* royal bounty, and 300*l.* parliamentary grant, and in the gift of the resident freeholders, who choose a committee of 27 from the three townships, by a majority of whom the minister is elected. There is an endowed school at Chapel-en-le-Frith, where 19 scholars are taught, and another at Bowden's Edge for the in-

struction of 8 girls. A library has been recently established. The town is not lighted, and only partially paved. Its elevation above the level of the sea at low water is 566 feet. The High Peak court for the recovery of small debts is held here every third week, at which the Duke of Devonshire's steward presides. About 2 miles south is a Roman road and other remains of antiquity.

The road from Manchester to Sheffield, viâ Stockport, passes through Chapel-en-le-Frith; also the road from Buxton to Glossop, through Hayfield. Glossop is about 10 miles from Chapel-en-le-Frith. The parish is probably the most extensive in England, comprising an area rather exceeding 78 square miles, or above one half the area of the county of Rutland. For the administration of ecclesiastical and municipal matters, it is divided into 18 chapelries, townships, and hamlets. In 1831 the parish contained 18,080 inhabitants, great numbers of whom are employed in the cotton factories which have been established in the adjacent valleys; and, but for this source of employment, so large a population could not obtain the means of subsistence in this elevated, and for the most part, sterile region. The population of the parish of Glossop in 1801 only amounted to 4000, although the cotton manufacture had been introduced some years previously. The Sheffield and Manchester Railway will pass through the parish along Dinting Vale. The small town of Glossop contains about 2000 inhabitants, and is situ-

sted on the declivity of a valley which is one of the deepest in the county. The Rev. William Bagshaw, the non-conformist vicar of Glossop, was styled from his many virtues the "Apostle of the Peak." The church contains a bust by Bacon of Mr. Joseph Hague, who bequeathed the interest of a handsome sum to the poor of the parish. The practice of "rush-bearing" prevailed in this neighbourhood to a comparatively recent date. About twenty years since a new road from Manchester to Sheffield was constructed, which passes close to Glossop over the moors; but scarcely any object of interest occurs on the immediate line of the road, and the scenery on the whole is not very picturesque. The Roman station called Melandra Castle occupied moderately elevated ground at the meeting of two mountain streams: from the traces of it which remain it appears to have been nearly square, 366 feet by 336; the ramparts and part of the ditch still remain, and the gates and the site of the *Prætorium* may be discovered: there are the foundations of many buildings on the side sloping to the water. The lofty eminence of Kinder Scout is about 3 miles south of this road, and 6 miles south-east of Glossop. It is situated at the head of Edale Dale. Many streams have their sources in the moorlands situated north of a line drawn from Chapel-en-le-Frith to Castleton.

Resuming our course by the road already indicated we find, about a quarter of a mile after turning into the Chapel-en-le-Frith and Castleton road,

the Ebbing and Flowing Well. Its motion depends upon the quantity of rain during the season, and is by no means regular, as it has ceased to flow for one, two, or three weeks during a drought, but in very wet weather it will flow and ebb more than once in an hour. The time which it continues to flow varies, but is sometimes four or five minutes, the water appearing at first slightly agitated, and then issuing forth from nine small apertures with a gurgling sound. After remaining stationary, it then ebbs to its ordinary level. The well is scarcely enclosed, and has the appearance of a pool, but the height to which it would rise would probably exceed a foot if the margin were protected so as to prevent the over-running of the water. It has been known to discharge 23 hogsheads in a minute. The phenomenon is explained by the operation of the siphon.

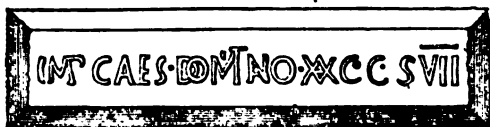
About 2 miles beyond the well is Eldon Hole, which, however, is no longer regarded as one of the chief "wonders of the Peak." It is a natural cavern, such as are common in the limestone measures, and is not so capacious as many others of less notoriety. The immeasurable depths once assigned to the cavern have dwindled down to between 70 and 80 yards. There is an account in one of the early volumes of the '*Philosophical Transactions*,' of an attempt to sound the bottom, but a line of 933 yards was let down without this object being accomplished, owing most probably to its being unskilfully managed. The sixty-first volume of the

'Transactions' contains an account of Mr. Lloyd's descent into the cavern, when the floor of the cave was found to be 62 yards from the mouth. For the first 20 yards the descent is oblique and then becomes more difficult from projecting crags, and when within 14 yards of the bottom Mr. Lloyd was enabled to swing himself by the rope to the lowest part, and here the light was sufficiently strong to allow him to read print. The tradition that a man let down the cavern long ago was drawn out in a state of derangement, owing to the fright which its horrid chasms had occasioned, was probably repeated for the purpose of interesting the lovers of the marvellous. Leaving the cavern we pass at the foot of Mam Tor, or the Shivering Mountain, the summit of which towers about 800 feet above the level of the valley: it is composed of alternate layers of shale and gritstone. Mam Tor is the ancient British appellation, but the other is a modern name given to the mountain on account of the shale decomposing under the influence of the weather, and falling into the valley below, bringing with it detached masses of the grit, the fall of which is sometimes heard at Castleton. The effects of this "shivering" of Mam Tor have, according to vulgar report, been going on for ages without occasioning any diminution in its bulk. The summit, the ascent to which is very steep on every side except one, exhibits traces of a Roman encampment and of two barrows. It commands a very extensive prospect,

bounded by the loftiest eminences of the Peak, and amidst the ruggedness there are glimpses into one or two dales of considerable beauty. At some distance from the larger mountain, on the north-west, is Little Mam Tor: its geological structure is the same, and the decomposition of the shale takes place in a similar manner to that of its neighbour.

At the southern foot of Mam Tor is the ancient lead-mine of Odin, which has probably been worked from the time of the Romans. In the seventh room of the Gallery of Antiquities in the British Museum are several pigs or masses of lead, one of which has the name of the Emperor Domitian inscribed upon it, a second that of the Emperor Hadrian. "These pigs, or oblong masses," says a writer in the 'Library of Entertaining Knowledge,'* "afford undoubted evidence that the lead-mines of Derbyshire and its neighbourhood were worked in the Roman time. The mines of Britain, in the earlier part of the Roman time, were worked by the subdued natives. Galgacus in his memorable speech, preserved by Tacitus, when laying before his soldiers the consequences of defeat, mentions tributes, MINES, and the rest of the penalties of slavery." The following is a representation of the pig of lead in the British Museum, which bears the name of the Emperor Domitian:

* Townley Gallery.



It is 23 inches in length at the bottom ; 20 upon the upper surface ; in depth of lead, four inches ; and weighs 154lbs. The inscription reads—" IMP. CAES. DOMITIANO. AVG. COS. VII.," contractions for "Imperatore Cæsare Domitiano Augusto, Consule VII.," being

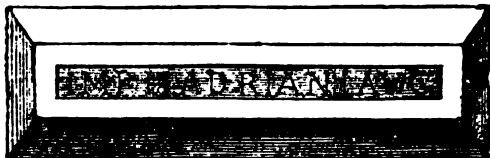
the name and title of the Emperor Domitian, and the date of the seventh year of his consulate. This inscription is referred to the year 81. In 1797 three pigs of lead were presented to the Museum, of one of which the following is a representation. The inscrip-

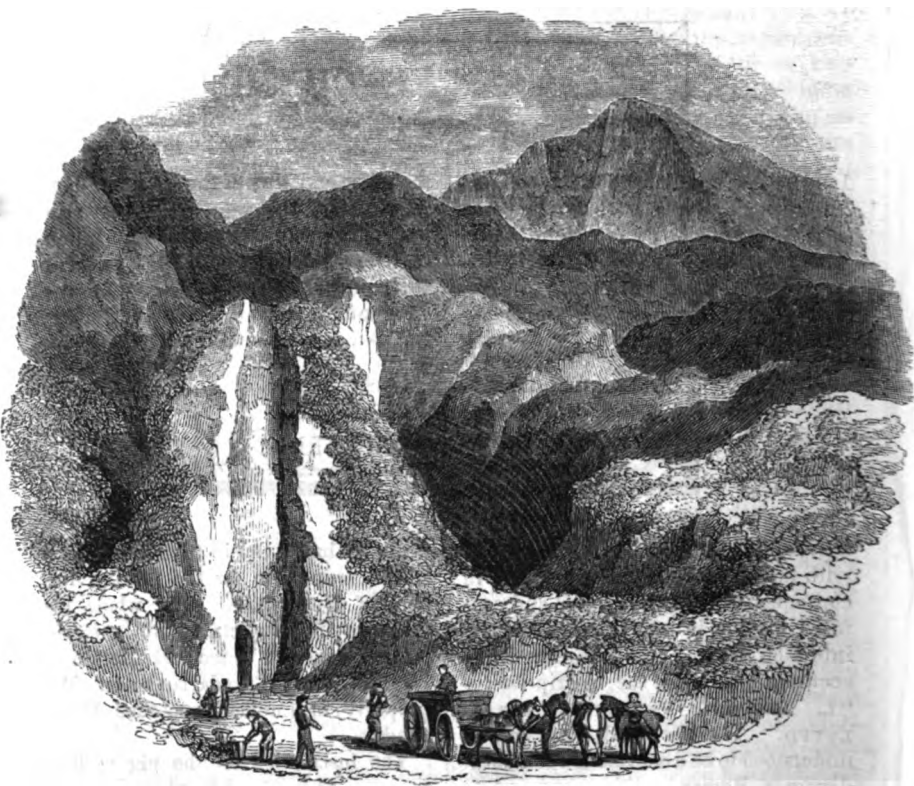


tion is difficult to read, and is not given with full accuracy in the engraving, in consequence of the compound and confused manner in which the letters run into each other. The following is the accurate reading of the inscription :—" L. ARVCONI. VERECVND. METAL. LVTVD." The last word, "LVTVD.," is understood to be a contraction for Lutudarum, a Roman station, supposed to have occupied the site of the present town of Chesterfield—and which ap-

pears to have been in the Roman time a little emporium for the mining district of Derbyshire. The whole inscription is conjectured to mean—" Lucii Aruconii Verecundi Metallum Lutudarense,"—Lutudarian metal, (the property) of Lucius Aruconius Verecundus.

The inscription on the pig of lead represented in the following woodcut is simply that of the name and title of the Emperor Hadrian :—





[Entrance of Odin's Mine: Mam Tor in the distance.]

The author of the 'Townley Gallery' remarks that "the occupation of the British mines by the Romans was probably more extensive than most readers are aware of." It is stated that the Roman method of cleansing the lead ore was the same as that pursued in this country till very recent times. The lead of Derbyshire was originally smelt-

ed by wood fires on hills in the open air. This inconvenient mode was succeeded by what were called hearth-furnaces. The last hearth-furnace was pulled down about the year 1780, the cupola furnace having succeeded in its room.

Odin's mine consists of two horizontal levels, by one of which, a "cast gate,"



[Entrance to the Peak Cavern.]

the ore is brought from the mine, and the lower one is for drainage. The workings have been carried above a mile into the heart of the mountain.

Before reaching Castleton we find Peak Cavern, frequently called the Devil's Cave. It is situated about a hundred yards from the village, in Castleton Dale. This dale, six miles in length, and, in some parts, two miles in breadth, has been celebrated for the beauty of its scenery.

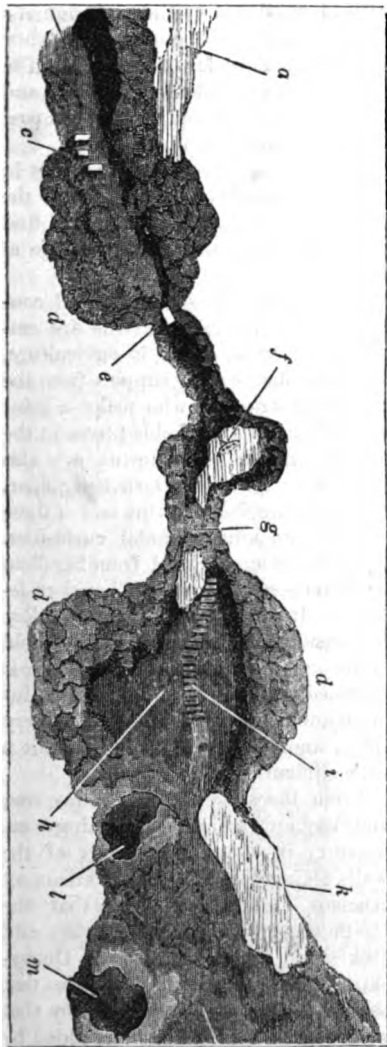
The cavern itself is one of those magnificent and extraordinary works of Nature which at all times excite the admiration and wonder of the spectator. It would be difficult to imagine a scene more august than that which the entrance or vestibule of the cave presents. On each side the huge grey rocks rise almost perpendicularly to the height of nearly 300 feet, having on the left the rivulet which issues from the cavern, and foams along over crags and broken masses of limestone. The mouth of the cavern is formed by a vast canopy of rock which assumes the form of a depressed arch nearly regular in its structure, and which extends in width 120 feet, in height 42, and above 90 in receding depth. This gloomy recess is inhabited by some poor people who subsist by making packthreads, and by selling candles and officiating as guides to travellers. Their rude huts and twine-making machines, as exhibited in the woodcut (and *c* in the plan*), produce a singular effect in

combination with the natural features of the scene.

After penetrating about thirty yards into this recess, the roof becomes lower, and a gentle descent conducts by a detached rock to the immediate entrance of the interior hollow, which is closed by a door (*e*) kept locked by the guides. At this point, the light of day, which had gradually softened into the obscurity of twilight, totally disappears, and torches are employed to illuminate their progress through the darkness of the cavern. The passage then becomes low and confined, and the explorer is obliged to proceed twenty or thirty yards in a stooping posture, when he comes to another spacious opening, whence a path conducts to the margin of a small lake, locally called "First Water" (*f*), which is about 14 yards in length, but has not more than 3 or 4 feet of depth. There is a small boat, partly filled with straw, on which the visitor lies down, and is conveyed into the interior of the cavern under a massive arch of rock (*g*), which is about five yards through, and in one place descends to within 18 or 20 inches of the water. Beyond the lake, a spacious vacuity, 220 feet in length, 200 feet broad, and, in some parts, 120 feet

rocks. *b*. Entrance to the cavern. *c*. Cottages. *d*. Broken rocks fallen from the roof and sides. *e*. Door leading from the outer to the second cavern. *f*. Boat in the first water, which conveys one person under the arch. *g*. *h*. Great Cavern. *i*. Steps cut in the sand to descend to the second water. *k*. Entrance to the passage leading to the "chancel," *m*. *n*. Third cavern, 400 yards from the entrance.

* We subjoin here the references to the plan following:—*a*. Stream which loses itself among the



[Plan of Peak Cavern.]

high, opens in the bosom of the rocks, but the absence of light precludes the spectator from seeing either the sides or roof of this great cavern. It is traversed by a path, consisting partly of steps cut in the sand (*s*), conducting from the first to the "Second Water" (*k*). Through this travellers are generally carried on the backs of the guides. Near the termination of this passage, before arriving at the water, there is a projecting pile of rocks popularly called "Roger Rain's House," on account of the incessant fall of water from the crevices of the rocks. A little beyond this spot is the entrance (at *l*) of another hollow called the "Chancel" (*m*). At this point the rocks appear broken and dislocated, and the sides and prominent parts of the cavity are incrustated with large masses of stalactite. In the "Chancel," the stranger is much surprised and impressed by hearing the death-like stillness of the place suddenly interrupted by a burst of vocal music from the upper regions of the cavern. The tones are wild and discordant, but heard in such a place, and under such circumstances, produce a powerful impression. At the conclusion of the performance, the singers display their torches, and eight or ten women and children—the inhabitants of the huts at the entrance—appear, ranged in a hollow of the rock, about 50 or 60 feet from the ground, to which they gain access by clambering up a steep ascent which commences in the opening at *l*. From the "Chancel" the path leads

onward to the "Devil's Cellar," and thence a gradual but somewhat rapid descent of about 150 feet conducts to a spot called the "Half-way House." Neither of these places claim particular notice. Farther on, the way proceeds, between three natural arches, pretty regularly formed, to another vast cavity which is denominated "Great Tom of Lincoln," from its resemblance to the form of a bell. A very pleasing effect is produced when this place is illuminated by a strong light. The arrangement of the rocks, the spiracles in the roof, and the flowing stream, unite to form a scene of no common interest. The distance from this spot to the termination of the entire hollow is not considerable. The vault gradually descends, the passage contracts, and at last nearly closes, leaving only sufficient room for the passage of the water, which appears to have a communication with the distant mines of the Peak Forest.

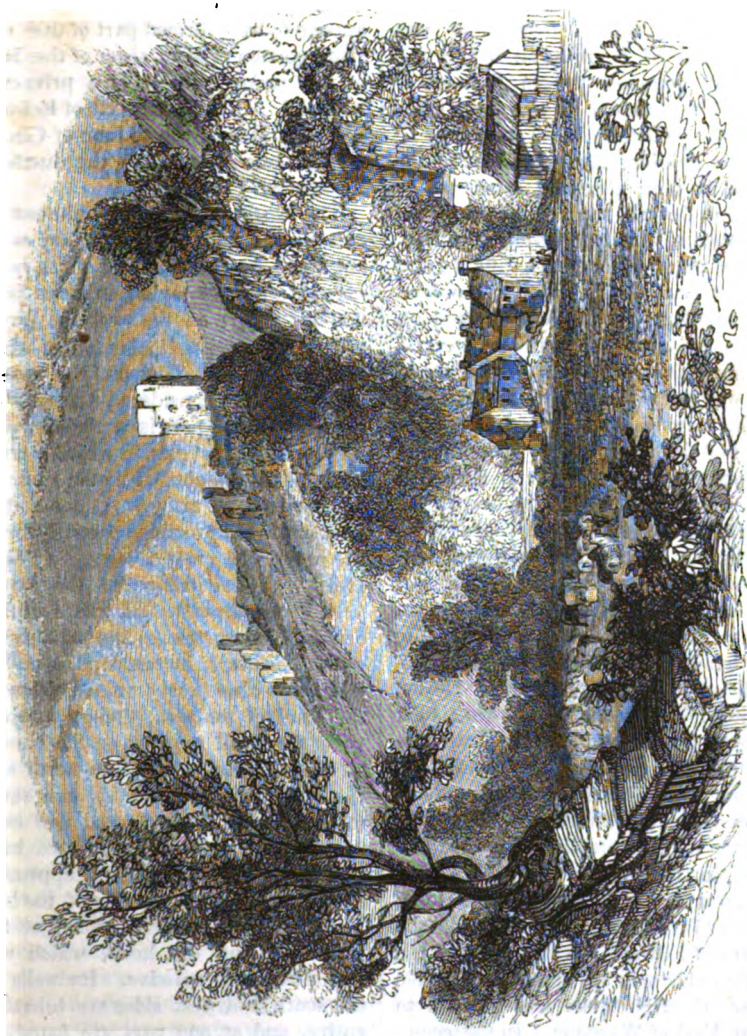
The entire length of this wonderful excavation is about 750 yards, and its depth 207 yards. It is wholly formed of limestone strata, which abound in marine exuvise, and occasionally exhibit an intermixture of chert. Some communications with other fissures open from different parts of the cavern, but none of them are comparable to it in extent or appearance. In general, the access to the cavern is easy; but in very wet weather it cannot be explored, as it is then nearly filled with water, which rises to a considerable height even at the entrance. In the inner part of the cavern a singular

effect is produced by the explosion of a small quantity of gunpowder, when inserted in a crevice of the rock. The report seems to roll along the roof and sides like a heavy and continuous peal of overwhelming thunder.

If the numerous objects of interest in this neighbourhood should tempt the tourist to prolong his stay, he will find good accommodation at the village of Castleton.

The parish of Castleton in 1831 contained 1428 inhabitants, who are employed in the mines, or in agriculture, and some derive their support from the numerous strangers who make a point of visiting the remarkable places in the neighbourhood. Ornaments are also made here from the Derbyshire spar, and there are shops for the sale of these articles and other mineral curiosities. Castleton is on the road from Sheffield to Manchester through Chapel-en-le-Frith. It stands on the edge of a valley of considerable beauty, and the bold eminence which overlooks the village is crowned by the keep and other remains of an ancient castle. The rock is very steep, and the ascent to its summit a little difficult.

From the style of the architecture, and the appearance of herring-bone masonry in a particular part of the walls, King, in his 'Observations on Ancient Castles,' supposes that the Castle was erected by the Saxons; and Pilkington, in his 'History of Derbyshire,' thinks it not improbable that the walls of the area were built by that people, and that the keep was added by

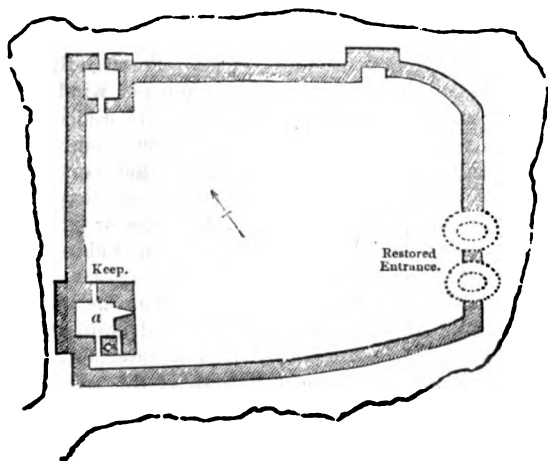


[Peveril Castle : Castleton.]

the Normans. It is at least "pretty certain," he adds, "that there was some kind of fortification before the Norman conquest, for in Domesday-book 'terra castelli' is expressly mentioned." Whatever truth there may be in this opinion, the foundation of the castle is now generally attributed to William Peveril, the natural son of the Conqueror, who, it is certain, received, among his other extensive gifts, a grant of this estate. His family, however, did not long retain their possessions, for a grandson of William Peveril, having poisoned Ranulph earl of Chester, was obliged to secure his safety by flight, leaving all his estates to the disposal of the king, Henry II. During the absence of Richard I. in Palestine, the castle was placed in the keeping of Hugh de Novant, in accordance with an agreement concluded between Longchamp, bishop of Ely, and John earl of Morteyne. During the wars between King John and the barons it fell into the hands of the latter, but in 1215, William de Ferrers, 7th earl of Derby, having raised troops for the king, took Peveril Castle by assault, and was appointed its governor in recompense. Among the various individuals who at different times afterwards held this fortress may be mentioned Prince Edward, in the reign of Henry III., and his great antagonist Simon de Montfort, who held it in the same reign. In the fourth of Edward I., a free grant of the castle and honour of Peka with the whole forest of High Peka was granted to John, Earl of Warenne. In the second

of Edward III. the castle and forest appear to have formed part of the marriage portion of Joan, sister of the king, on her union with David, a prince of Scotland. In the forty-sixth of Edward III. they were given to John of Gaunt, and became absorbed in the duchy of Lancaster.

The castle walls occupy almost the entire summit of the mount, and without these on the east and south sides extends a narrow ravine, in some parts 200 feet deep; on the west the precipice has a perpendicular fall of about 260 feet deep; whilst on the north, which must be considered the only accessible side, the path is carried upwards by a series of traverses, in which a small body of men might with ease stop the progress of an army. At the south-west angle the precipice partially forms the roof of the great cavern (the Peak's Hole). The entrance to the castle-yard is on the east, and was doubtless originally very strong: the remains are now, however, inconsiderable. The walls are also nearly ruined down to the level of the area, though in some parts they still measure on the outside 20 feet in height. On the north side the wall was defended by two small towers, which were erected also most probably to command what we have stated was the only mode of approach, the ascent on the north side of the hill. Near the south-western corner of the walls we find the keep, which was small, but very massive. Its walls on the south and west sides are tolerably entire, and at one part are found on



[Plan of Peveril Castle.]

measurement to be not less than 55 feet high. On the outside it forms a square of about 38 feet, but in the inside the sides are not equal, owing to the varying thickness of the wall, which in some parts amounts to 6 and in others to 8 feet. The wall is composed of broken masses of limestone, set in mortar of such excellent temper that the whole has amalgamated into a substance hard as rock. The facings both within and without are of hewn gritstone. In the wall within is the herring-bone ornament we have alluded to. The inside of the keep is now a mere blank. It originally consisted of two rooms, the lower of which appears to have had no separate entrance, but was reached by a flight of steps (now gone) from the upper. The lower room was about 14

feet high, the upper 16. The roof was raised with a gable end to the north and south, and was covered with lead. The principal entrance into the keep was through a noble portal on the south side of the upper room, and which King supposes was reached by a platform attached to the wall without. At the south-east corner of the keep is a narrow winding staircase originally communicating with the roof, but now in a ruinous condition. We must not omit to observe that in the eastern wall of the upper apartment is a kind of recess of a rectangular figure with a singular canopy. King indulges in some fanciful conjectures respecting this recess; supposing it to have been in Saxon times the place of an idol. It has been observed that al-

though this castle was almost impregnable owing to its situation, yet that it was but ill adapted for a procrastinated siege on account of the want of water; there being no appearance of well or reservoir within its walls. But King considers, and we think justly (for in the present ruinous condition of the castle it is impossible to make any accurate and satisfactory search), "that no one acquainted with this kind of buildings can have any doubt as to there once having been a well in the tower." It may be added too, that in recent years a well with an ample supply of water has been discovered on the summit of Long Cliffe Hill, between which and the castle there is a communication, though now a very dangerous one, across the narrow ridge of rock that overtops the entrance into Peak's Hole. The castle has given its title to and formed the scene of a considerable portion of the events of one of Sir Walter Scott's most popular novels.

The ascent of the Winnets will be found a very pleasant excursion, after a visit to the Peak Cavern or the mines about Castleton. After proceeding about half a mile on level ground from the village, the road ascends for about 2 miles, running necessarily in a winding direction in consequence of the steepness of the acclivity. Precipices a thousand feet in height, dark and rugged, rise perpendicularly on each side, and every here and there directly in front, forming apparently an impassable barrier. For centuries this was the only accessible road to Buxton

and Chapel-en-le-Frith; it is not broader than will admit two carriages to pass. Through this tortuous chasm the currents of wind appear to be ever striving with difficulty to find their way—a circumstance which has given to the spot the happily expressive and poetical appellation of the Winnets, *i. e.* the gates or portals of the winds. At one of the sudden turns of the road to the left, a most beautiful view of the vale opens to the eye, contrasting its rich pastoral beauty with the wild and barren mountains that shut it in. The breadth of the valley, as before stated, is probably about 2 miles from north to south, and the length from east to west between 5 and 6 miles. Various streams run through the vale, and on the north and south sides we see the mouths of several smaller valleys opening into it. All around are lofty eminences; westward the hills assume an amphitheatrical form, and in that direction we see the village of Castleton, close to which, below, is the famous Peak's Hole, or Devil's Cave, and above, on the very edge of the perpendicular precipice, is the Castle. The pass terminates in a wild and extensive tract of moorland. The last opening is formed by masses of rock forming gigantic portals, through which Hope Dale bursts upon the view.

Leaving the free mountain air, our next visit shall be into the depths of the mines. That called the Speedwell Level, at the foot of the Winnets, is the most remarkable. It was driven between 60 and 70 years ago by a com-

pany of adventurers from Staffordshire, but after a large expenditure and eleven years' labour the works were abandoned. Entering by an arched vault, a flight of above a hundred steps leads to the level, where the visitor and guide enter a boat, which is pushed, by means of wooden pegs in the side of the rock, along a channel containing a depth of water of about 3 feet. This channel was blasted and cut through a rock of adamant hardness, which contains several veins of lead ore, though they are not of sufficient value to defray the expense of working. At the distance of 650 yards from the entrance, the level opens into an immense gulf, the roof and bottom of which are invisible. The navigation is continued by an arch thrown across the fissure, and here, leaving the boat and ascending a stage, the attention of the visitor is directed to the remarkable recesses which surround him. At the depth of 80 feet there commences a pool of water named the Bottomless Pit, and which, during the working of the mine, is calculated to have swallowed up 40,000 tons of material. The depth of the waters is reported to be above 300 feet, and they most probably communicate with other abysses in the heart of the mountain. The water from the level rushes into this dismal abyss with an appalling sound. The depth of the fissure below the surface of the mountain is estimated at 280 yards, and rockets have been sent up to the height of 450 feet without rendering the roof visible. The letting off of a Bengal

light in this cavity has a singular effect. The fissure is midway between the commencement and termination of the level, but in the portion beyond this point there is nothing particularly noticeable.

The Blue John Mine, situated on the side of Tre Cliff opposite Mam Tor, is the only one in which this beautiful material is found in masses of sufficient size for working. Its recesses are supposed to be connected with a series of caverns extending over an area of many square miles, and including Eldon Hole, Peak Cavern, Speedwell, and Bagshaw's Cavern at Bradwell. Rude steps lead downwards about 60 yards, beyond which are caverns and passages that have been explored to a distance of 3 miles, but the visitor must frequently descend by means of ropes beyond a certain point. Before reaching this he will, however, have seen the most remarkable things in the mine,—a perpendicular rock above 50 feet high, encrusted with stalactite of the purest white; the same material forming rich cornices or assuming the appearance of drapery; and Mr. Adam states that many parts of the mine have a great resemblance to the aisles of a Gothic cathedral. The fluor spar exists in flattish lumps usually about 3 inches thick, and from 3 to 12 inches in length, though larger pieces are found. Mr. Adam has in his possession a piece above 2 feet long, and from 16 to 18 inches thick. When the colour is so dark as to become almost opaque, the spar is put into an oven and brought

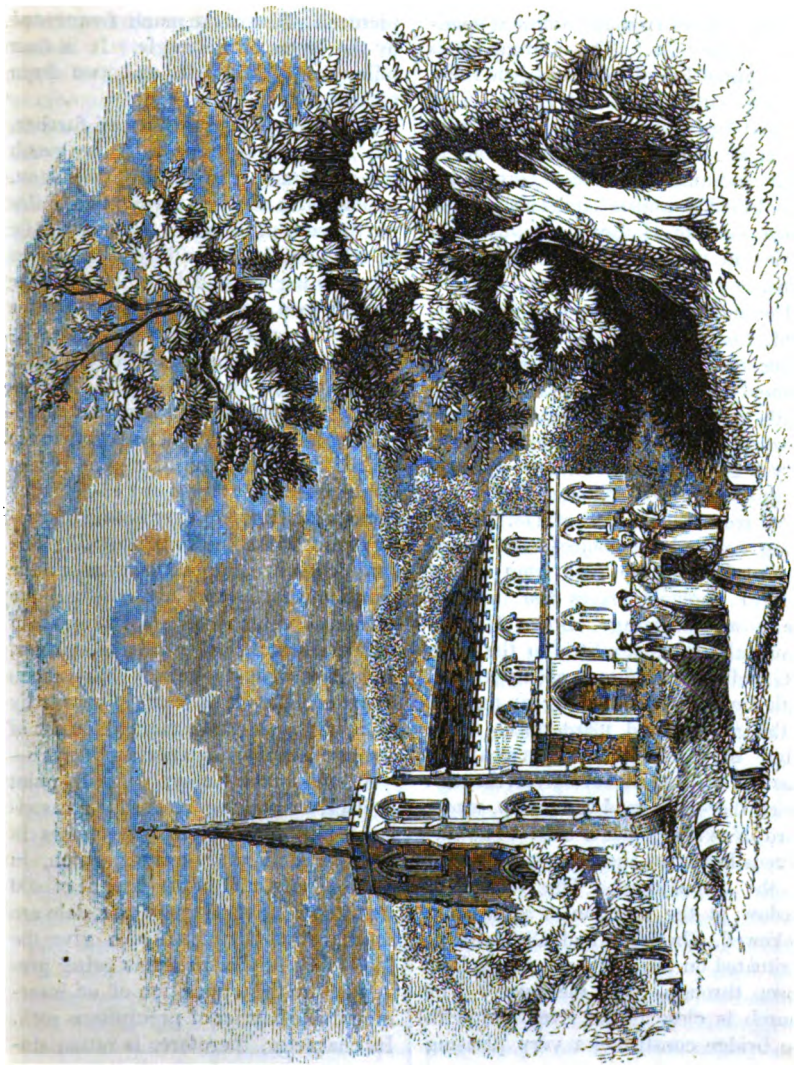
nearly to a white heat, when a great part of the colour is discharged and it assumes brilliant amethyst hues. The charge for exploring the mine is for one person 2s.; for three 4s. 6d.; for four 5s.; and 1s. per head for every additional person. The guides make an additional charge if a Bengal light be used.

Bradwell Cavern is remarkable for the richness and beauty of the stalactite matter which it contains. It is not very difficult to explore, and is visited by ladies, who put over their dress a miner's frock. The names given to the different grottoes or recesses of the cavern are rather fanciful: thus we have the Music Chamber, the Grotto of Paradise, Grotto of Calypso, Hall of State, &c. Bradwell Cavern is between Castleton and Hope.

We may now leave Castleton, though a sojourn of some days would be necessary to become well acquainted with all the attractive spots in the immediate neighbourhood. Proceeding by the Sheffield road to Hathersage, 6 miles distant, we pass through Hope Dale, whose beauty is enhanced by the stern features of the surrounding country. It is watered by the Derwent, whose banks are beautifully fringed with trees and plants. Hope is a very ancient village, and a church existed here before the Conquest. The parish is very extensive and comprises an area of nearly 60 square miles, but the population was under 4000 in 1831, and on account of the failure of the lead-mines was at that period decreas-

ing. At Brough, a hamlet of Hope, there appears to have been a Roman station. The camp was at the spot called the Castle, near the junction of the Nooe and Bradwell water, and the remains of Roman buildings, tiles, bricks, coins, &c., have been discovered at various times. The neighbourhood is not uninteresting to an antiquarian. Two neighbouring hills are called respectively Win Hill and Lose Hill, from the event of a battle which tradition records to have been fought between two parties who had previously encamped on the two heights. A little to the eastward of Win-hill Pike, a rude urn of baked clay was found under a heap of stones. On Mill-stone Edge Moor are the remains of a fortification called the Carle's Work. Behind the rough defences a body of men had defended themselves in some remote period. Camp Green, a circular area at a little distance from Hathersage church, was another rude fortress defended by a mound of earth and a deep ditch. An early volume of the 'Archæologia' contains an account of a rocking-stone, rock basin, and tumuli on Hathersage Moor. In the latter were found urns, beads, and rings. At a little distance from this part of the moor was another rocking-stone and rock-basin, near which was a rock in which a rude seat was cut, called Cair's Chair.

Hathersage is situated in the midst of a mountainous tract near the eastern extremity of Hope Dale. The church is rather handsome, and its spire is a con-



[Hathersage Church.]

spicuous object from the different openings of the hills. The churchyard is the reputed burial-place of Little John, the companion of Robin Hood. Two ancient upright stones mark the spot where his remains reposed previous to their exhumation many years ago. Brookfield is a small hamlet a short distance north of Hathersage, apparently buried in the seclusion of the mountains.

Instead of pursuing the road to Sheffield, 9 miles distant, we shall proceed along the banks of the Derwent to Stoney Middleton. The view of the south-west part of Yorkshire from the elevated parts of the Sheffield road is very extensive, the village spire of Laughton-en-le-Morthen, situated many miles from the border of Derbyshire, being a conspicuous object. At Grindelford Bridge the road from Bakewell to Sheffield leaves the line we are now traversing. Stoke Hall is beautifully situated a little to the south of Grindelford Bridge on rising ground, with the Derwent flowing at the feet of the gardens and plantations. Pursuing the banks of the Derwent, we pass the small hamlet of Calver, through which there is a road to Hassop, where Lord Newburgh has a seat. The numerous limekilns show the employment of the population. The village of Baslow, at the junction of roads from Bakewell, Sheffield, and Chesterfield, is situated on the Derwent, which here flows through rich meadows. The church is close to the river, and with the bridge constitutes a very pleasing

picture. Baslow is much frequented by the lovers of the angle. It is four miles from Bakewell, and two from Chatsworth.

We shall not pursue this road further, but retrace our steps until we reach the road leading to Stoney Middleton, which is at a point about two miles north-west of Baslow. About a mile on the left is the village situated at the opening of Middleton Dale. The country-seat of Lord Chief Justice Denman is at the entrance of the village. His Lordship has fitted up baths in the village for the public accommodation. The church is a neat structure of modern date. The appearance of the village is singular, the houses appearing as if "hewn out of the grey rocks which impend over it, and scarcely distinguishable from them." The lime-kilns are very numerous in the neighbourhood, and are one of the principal sources of employment to the inhabitants. The dale is narrow, and its claims to beauty have been disputed, but it is certainly worthy of a visit. Mr. Warner, a tourist of the last century, disparagingly says:—"A lively fancy may, indeed, point to itself something resembling castellated buildings or rude fortresses in the perpendicular crags, which, in some places, rise to the height of 400 feet; and the turnings of the dale are so sharp as occasionally to give the idea of all further progress being prevented by the opposition of an insurmountable barrier of precipitous rock. Its character, therefore, is rather sin-

gularity than magnificence or loveliness." The length of the dale is about two miles, and the sides form a nearly perpendicular rampart until we arrive at a breach about half a mile from the village through which a road leads to the village of EYAM. Beyond this breach the sides of the dale are broken into a greater variety of forms. The stream which flows through the dale is discoloured by the matter precipitated from the lime, in consequence of which its effect is less picturesque than it would otherwise be. On emerging at the extremity of the dale, nothing is seen but a wild and sterile country stretching as far as the eye can reach.

Eyam is one of the most pleasant and most healthful of Peak villages. Surrounded on every side by bleak and barren mountains, it appears to be one of the last places where a community would choose to take up an abode; yet, composed of plain, neat, cheerful cottages, each having a garden, and every interval filled up with trees of the most luxuriant growth,—its antique church showing its grey tower among the foliage, and every house partaking of that simple rural character which never fails to please—it presents a most agreeable picture of content and comfort. Eyam is but little known. Although a good turnpike road was made many years ago (in those times when road-makers preferred taking a line over the summit rather than round the base of a mountain), it is not much used. The

place is consequently little visited except by a few strangers who come to view its antique cross, the tomb of Mrs. Mompesson, or the romantic dell in which stands the singular rock called Cucklett Church. Here were memorably signalized the prudence, energy, and devotedness of Mr. Mompesson and his wife, during the great plague of 1666. The disease was conveyed by a box of cloth sent from London to a tailor in the village. He and his family were the first victims. The disease spread with an astonishing rapidity,—entering almost every house, and carrying off a part of every family. In the churchyard, on the neighbouring hills, and in the fields bordering the village, graves were dug ready to receive the expiring sufferers, and the earth, with an unhallowed haste, was closed upon them. Mr. Mompesson, who then held the living of Eyam, was about twenty-eight years of age,—his wife about a year younger; they had two children, a son and a daughter, both of necessity very young. On the breaking out of the disorder, Mrs. Mompesson with her babes in her arms earnestly solicited her husband to fly with them from the devoted spot. Her entreaties were in vain;—he had determined never to desert his flock. In his turn he became the suppliant, and besought his wife to retire from Eyam with the children till the visitation had passed over. She would not abandon her husband. They finally resolved to abide together the danger of the dispensation, but to

send off their infants to a place of apparently greater safety. To prevent as much as possible the effects of contagion, Mr. Mompesson closed the church, and retiring to Cucklett-dale, a dell at a little distance from the town, bounded on one side by craggy rocks, and on the other overhung by trees as planted by the hand of nature, he placed himself in a natural arch at a great height above the level, and thence, as from a pulpit, addressed his congregation, and performed the accustomed service. The narrow gloomy dell, the babbling stream which ran along its bottom, the overhanging tors, the perforated rock since named Cucklett Church, the graceful trees, and its complete freedom from every interruption, would render this place at the present day one of the most fascinating of confined landscapes; but when we fancy in our minds the assembled villagers seated on the rising ground on one side the brook, at a distance from one another, as if each feared contagion from his neighbour, but all anxiously intent on catching every word of the preacher on the rock, and bending in solemn prayer before that Being who could alone afford them comfort and protection, we feel ourselves carried back to the scene of 1666, and are especially lost in admiration of the holy pastor who could thus direct to one great end the jarring passions and the afflictions of our nature.

An imaginary boundary line was run around the village, and at va-

rious places were stations appointed for the inhabitants of other towns to bring the necessaries of subsistence, leaving them upon a stone, without any person being near, and returning for the value, which was found deposited in the same place in a trough of clean spring water. For seven months did Mr. Mompesson watch over Eyam, for so long did the pestilence continue its ravages. He retained his health, but his devoted wife, while rejoicing at her husband's safety, fell a victim to the fury of the disease. She was buried in the churchyard, where her tombstone yet remains. Out of a population of 330, the number who died was 250, and graves were dug, and cemeteries formed, on the hills on every side of the town. One of these burying-places yet remains in a field about half a mile to the eastward of Eyam, known by the name of Riley Grave Stones, where one family alone seems to have been buried, all having died within the space of eight days with the exception of one boy. Six headstones and one tabular monumental stone yet remain to tell the tale of the almost total extinction of a whole family. The inscription, though much worn, may still be distinctly traced. On the four sides of the tomb which contains the ashes of the father of this unhappy family of sufferers are the words, '*Horam Nescitis, Orate, Vigilare.*' A descendant of the boy who escaped, introduced about the middle of the last century into Sheffield the method of plating copper with silver.

Miss Seward was born at Eyam, and spent the years of her childhood here. Her father was the rector, and built the parsonage house. The shock of the earthquake at Lisbon in 1755 was felt very distinctly by the miners at Eyam.

From Eyam the road passes through a country which offers few objects of interest. On the left is the elevated ridge called Longstone Edge, and passing through the village of Foolow we soon reach Tideswell, which is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Eyam.

Tideswell is a small town situated in a bottom amid bleak naked hills. The houses are low, irregularly situated, and ill built. A rivulet of clear water runs through the town; the ebbing well, which is supposed to have given a name to the town, has ceased to flow. The church is a fine building in the form of a cross, built about the middle of the fourteenth century, and principally in the decorated English style. The interior is handsome, possessing a nave with two side aisles, a north and south transept, and a spacious chancel. The pulpit is of stone, and there are some ancient stalls. The chancel is lighted by nine richly ornamented Gothic windows, and contains the monument of Robert Puraglove, suffragan bishop of Hull in the reign of Mary, and founder of a free-school and almshouses for twelve poor people at Tideswell. The tower of the church is at the west end: it is embattled, and has eight pinnacles. There was formerly a chapel of higher

antiquity than the church, at Litton, but the rains were demolished some time since. The market-day is Wednesday. That part of the parish which contains the town had in 1831 a population of 1553, many of whom are engaged in spinning and weaving cotton: previous to the introduction of the cotton manufacture, mining was the predominant occupation. The hamlets of Litton and Wheston, and the chapelry of Wormhill in Tideswell parish, had in 1831 a population of 866, 75, and 313, respectively, making the aggregate population of the parish 2807. The living of Tideswell is a vicarage, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean and chapter of Lichfield, in whose gift it is: the annual value is 109*l.*, with a glebe-house; the perpetual curacy of Wormhill is of the annual value of 270*l.*, with a glebe-house, and is in the gift of trustees. Upon the summit of a hill, immediately above Tideswell, there is a stone of rude workmanship embedded in the earth: it has a deep socket in which a shaft or pillar was probably inserted. At Wheston, a mile from Tideswell, there is an ancient cross of rather elegant design.

There is a road from Tideswell to Castleton about four miles distant, but the country through which it passes is dreary and uninviting, stone "hedges," a few cottages inhabited by miners or small farmers, or perhaps by persons who unite both occupations, are all that meet the eye until we reach the eminence above Castleton. There is also a road to Chapel-en-le-Frith

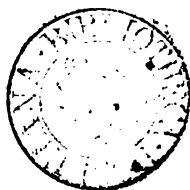
over the desolate tract called the Peak Forest, another to Bakewell, and also one to the turnpike road from Bakewell to Sheffield, which latter has roads falling into it at each side from various places.

The distance to Buxton from Tideswell is about 6 miles; and we now return to this central point for the tourist, passing through a very rugged district.

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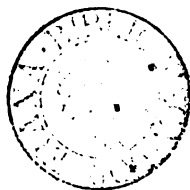
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THE JOURNEY-BOOK OF HAMPSHIRE.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

HAMPSHIRE is a southern maritime county, situated principally on the mainland of England, but includes the Isle of Wight. The portion on the mainland approximates in form to a parallelogram, except at the south-west corner, where a portion juts out to the westward: the sides of the parallelogram face the four cardinal points. Hampshire is bounded on the north by Berkshire, on the east by Surrey and Sussex, on the south by the English Channel, and on the west by Wiltshire and Dorsetshire. The length of the county (mainland part) from north to south varies from thirty-seven to forty-six miles; the breadth varies from twenty-eight to forty-one miles. The Isle of Wight is in the form of a lozenge, having its longer diagonal from

east to west twenty-three miles, and its shorter diagonal from north to south fourteen miles. It is separated from the main part of the county by an arm of the sea averaging about three miles over; but in the narrowest part not more than one mile. There is a small detached part of the county nine miles long, and for the most part less than half a mile wide, extending from near Haslemere in Surrey to Midhurst in Sussex. The area of the county, including the Isle, is 1625 square miles: in size it is the eighth of the English counties, being a little smaller than Somerset and a little larger than Kent. The population in 1831 was 314,280, or 193 to a square mile. In absolute population it is the fifteenth, in relative population the twenty-fourth of the English counties.

PHYSICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

COAST-LINE.

The coast of Hampshire (not including the Isle of Wight) is low towards the east side of the county, where there is a wide but not very deep bay or inlet, divided by Hayling Island and Portsea Island into three parts; Chichester harbour on the east, Langston harbour in the middle, and Portsmouth harbour on the west. These harbours, when the tide is up, present broad sheets of water; and Portsmouth harbour especially, with its shipping, has, when viewed from the top of Portsdown, a striking appearance; but when the tide is out, little is seen but an assemblage of sand or mud banks, with channels of deeper water running between them. Hayling Island is about four miles long from north to south, and nearly as much broad at the widest part, which is next the open sea. It contains the two villages of North and South Hayling, with a population of 882. Portsea Island, four miles long from north to south, and about three broad, contains the ancient borough of Portsmouth and the town of Portsea with their extensive suburbs.

From the entrance of Portsmouth harbour the coast runs north-west to the entrance of the inlet or estuary called Southampton Water. In this part are some low cliffs. Southampton Water penetrates about seven miles inland to the town of Southampton, at the junction of the Test and the Itchin: its

breadth, when the tide is up, is from one-and-a-half to two miles; at low water, about half a mile. From the entrance of Southampton Water a low coast runs south-west until opposite to the western extremity of the Isle of Wight. Along this low coast are some salt-works, and at its extremity, upon the point of a long sandy neck, stands Hurst Castle. From Hurst Castle the coast runs west, forming the shallow bay of Christchurch, terminated at its western point by Hengistbury Head, from which the coast still runs west to the border of Dorsetshire. From the neighbourhood of Hurst Castle the coast is generally high and abrupt.

SURFACE.

The surface of this county is rather irregular. The South Downs enter the county from Sussex on the south-east near Petersfield, and cross it in a north-west direction into Wiltshire: Butser hill, between Petersfield and Horndean, on the Portsmouth road, one of the highest points in this range, is 917 feet high. The North Downs enter the county from Surrey near Farnham, and extend across the county, by Odiham, Basingstoke, and Kingsclere, into Wiltshire. Highclere Beacon, one of the points of this range, in the north-western part of the county, near the border of Wilts and Berks, is 900 feet high. The Alton hills form a connexion on the east side of the county between the

South and North Downs, and run from Petersfield northwards past Alton. Portsdown is an isolated eminence extending east and west just above Portsmouth and Langston harbours; its height is about 447 feet; its length seven miles, and its breadth one. All these hills are in the chalk formation.

DRAINAGE—RIVERS.

A large part of Hampshire is within the basin of the Southampton Water; a small portion on the north and north-east sides of the county is in the basin of the Thames; a small portion on the south-east side is in the basin of the Arun, and a small portion of the west side is in the Wiltshire and Dorsetshire basin.

The principal streams which drain the Southampton basin are the Anton or Test, the Itchin, and the Hamble. One branch of the Test rises near Hurstbourne Tarrant (between Newbury, Berks, and Andover), and another near Whitchurch: their united stream flows by Stockbridge and Romsey to Southampton. The Itchin rises in the hills around Alresford, and flows past Winchester to Southampton. The Hamble rises near Bishop's Waltham, and joins the Southampton river some miles below Southampton. A stream to which the maps assign no name, flows by the village of Titchfield into the sea, near the mouth of the Southampton Water. The length of these rivers is as follows:—the Anton or Test to Southampton, thirty-five miles; the Itchin twenty-five miles (of which thir-

teen, viz., up to Winchester, are navigable); the Hamble ten, and the Titchfield river twenty miles; the length of the Southampton Water has been already given. The Itchin navigation does not coincide with the natural bed of the river.

The New Forest occupies nearly all that part of the county which has been represented as projecting at the south-west corner. It is drained by two small streams, the Ex or Beaulieu river, and the Boldre Water, besides some smaller streams. The Ex and the Boldre flow south-east into the sea, the first at Exbury, the second at Lymington: the length of the Ex is about thirteen miles, that of the Boldre Water about fifteen miles.

The basin of the Thames is separated from the rest of the county by the North Downs, and drained by the Wey, the source of which is in Hampshire, and by the Anborne and the Loddon, which have their course along the border.

The basin of the Arun is separated from the rest of the county by the Alton and Petersfield hills and the South Downs. It is drained by the Rother, which rises in this county and flows past Midhurst into the Arun.

The Wiltshire and Dorsetshire basin comprehends a narrow strip of the county to the west of the New Forest. It is drained by the Avon, which, entering the county just below Downton, Wilts, about six miles from Salisbury, runs south past Fordingbridge, Ringwood, and Christchurch, into the sea. That

part of the river which is in the county is about twenty to twenty-two miles long. A small portion of the Dorsetshire Stour, and of the Great Leonards Water, a tributary of the Stour, are in the county or upon its boundary; the Stour joins the Avon below Christchurch: their estuary forms Christchurch haven.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.

That vast district of chalk which overspreads so large a portion of Wiltshire, and of which Salisbury Plain forms a part, extends into Hampshire, and occupies a considerable part of it. It is bounded on the north by a line drawn from Inkpen Beacon, near Great Bedwin, Wiltshire (the highest point in all the chalk formation of England), by Kingsclere and Basingstoke to Odiham: on the east by a line drawn from Odiham by Alton, and along the Farnham road to the neighbourhood of Bishop's Waltham; and on the south by a line drawn from the neighbourhood of Bishop's Waltham and north of Bishopstoke into Wiltshire. The extent of this chalk district, from north to south, is about twenty or twenty-two miles; from east to west its Hampshire extent varies from twenty-two to thirty-two miles, but its whole extent through Hampshire and Wiltshire together is much greater. The breadth of the North Down range is about two or three miles, that of the South Downs about four miles. Portsdown hill is an outlying mass of chalk.

The country to the north of the great

chalk district and of the North Downs belongs to the London basin; the country to the south of the great chalk district and of the South Downs belongs to the Isle of Wight basin; and these are almost entirely occupied by the strata above the chalk.

The country to the east of the great chalk district, and embraced between the North and South Downs, is occupied by the strata which underlie the chalk, and which extend into Surrey and Sussex, and form the district of the Weald of the south-east of England. In the London basin the Bagshot sand, belonging to the upper marine formation, is found at Frimley Heath, on the border of Surrey, and is surrounded by a belt of the London clay; but these two formations are found only in the north-east of the county, and are of small extent: the rest of this basin in Hampshire is occupied by the plastic clay, except near Kingsclere, where, for a short distance, the chalk marl, and greensand crop out from beneath the chalk. In the Isle of Wight basin that part of the New Forest which extends from the Boldre Water to the Southampton Water is for the most part occupied by a sand probably agreeing in its principal characteristics with the Bagshot sand: this district is peculiarly adapted to the growth of oak. The remaining part of the New Forest, the country around the Southampton Water, and the whole line of the coast eastward from the Avon, and including Portsea and Hayling Islands, are occupied by the London clay; the country west of the

Avon, and a belt varying from three to seven miles south of the chalk, are occupied by the plastic clay. The Weald district east of the chalk is occupied by the chalk marl and greensand; and the small detached part of the county included in Sussex, partly by these

formations, and partly by the Weald clay.

No minerals are procured from this county to any extent, except near Petersfield, where grey chalk is quarried and sent to Portsmouth dockyard to be burnt for lime.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION, &c.

CANALS.

The Andover Canal commences at Andover, and is carried along the valley of a small feeder of the Anton or Test, till the junction of this feeder with the main stream. The canal then crosses the Anton and follows the valley of that river on the eastern side of the stream to Redbridge, three or four miles above Southampton, where it enters the Anton. Its whole length is $22\frac{1}{2}$ miles: its total fall is above 176 feet. It has a branch to Salisbury. It is chiefly used for the import of coal and other fuel, and of general goods from the coast, and for the export of agricultural produce.

The Basingstoke Canal commences at Basingstoke, and is carried in a very winding course twenty-two miles east on one level to the Loddon, which it crosses into the county of Surrey, its farther course through which to the navigable part of the river Wey (near its junction with the Thames) is fifteen miles, with a considerable fall. That part of the canal which is in Hampshire is the summit level, and is thirty-eight feet wide and five feet and a half

deep. About four miles east of Basingstoke the canal is carried by a tunnel above a mile long through a chalk hill; from this chalk, which yields a great quantity of water, the chief supply is obtained for lockage at that part of the canal which is in Surrey. Not far from the border of the county this canal is carried by an aqueduct across a valley three-quarters of a mile broad. This canal serves for the conveyance of coal, deals, groceries, bale goods, &c., from London, and for the export of timber, flour, malt, bark, and earthenware. During a fortnight's observation upon the Basingstoke Canal, two or three years ago, there passed 371 tons of the lighter description of general merchandise, and 859 tons of coal, timber, grain, stone, gravel, &c. Part of the canal from Arundel by Chichester to Portsmouth is in this county.

It will be seen that there is no continuous line of inland navigation between London and Southampton. The link which should connect the Basingstoke Canal with the Andover Canal, and with the Itchin navigation from Winchester to Southampton, has not been

completed in consequence of the difficulties which the intervening part of the country presents. The South-western Railway has conquered these obstacles, but the stage-waggon would perhaps never have been superseded by the canal-barge in this part of the country. Should the opening of the railway render the conveyance of goods less costly, the number of stage-waggons which will in course of time be discontinued will be much greater than in most other parts of the country where a complete line of artificial navigation is in existence. It is calculated that the number of stage-waggons which the Birmingham Railway threw out of employment was 54, while the number on the London and Southampton line of road will be about 82.

ROADS AND RAILWAY.

Three principal mail-roads cross the county, viz., the road from London to Portsmouth, that to Southampton and Poole, and the great western road through Salisbury. The South-western Railway from London enters Hampshire at Farnborough, in the north-eastern corner of the county, and passes Basingstoke in a direction nearly due west; but from this town its direction is south-south-west past Winchester to Southampton. A more particular account of the principal roads will be found in the following pages.

The number of turnpike trusts in

Hampshire, as ascertained in 1835, was 36; the number of miles of road under their charge is 810; the annual income in 1835, arising from the tolls and parish composition, was 30,321*l.*, and the annual expenditure, 29,894*l.*

FAIRS.

The following are the principal fairs in Hampshire:—Alresford, last Thursday in July, October 17; Alton, Saturday before May 1, September 29; Andover, May 13, November 17 and 18; Basingstoke, Easter Tuesday, September 23, October 11; Botley, July 23, August 20, November 13; Christchurch, June 13, October 17; Hambleton, February 13, October 2; Kingsclere, April 2, October 15; Lymington, May 12, October 2; Magdalen Hill, near Winchester, August 2; Newport, Isle of Wight, Whit Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; Overton, May 4, July 18, October 22; Petersfield, March 5, July 10, December 11; Portsmouth, July 10, lasts fourteen days; Romsey, Easter Monday, August 26, November 8; Southampton, February 17, May 6, December 15; Stockbridge, Holy Thursday, July 10, October 7; Weyhill, October 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 (this is one of the greatest fairs in England for cattle, sheep, wool, and hops); Whitchurch, April 23, June 17, July 7, October 19; Wickham, May 20; Winchester, first Monday in Lent, October 24.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY.

CLIMATE AND SOILS.

The climate of Hampshire is generally mild and favourable to vegetation. The southern part of the Isle of Wight is considered to have the mildest climate in Great Britain, and is resorted to on that account by invalids during the winter. But a great part of Hampshire consists of poor sands and gravelly soils or chalky hills, having between them low bottoms, with no ready outlet for the water, which has produced marshes and peat-bogs. In such places the nature of the soil has a greater effect on the climate than the difference of several degrees of latitude would have under other circumstances.

The northern part of the county, where it borders on Berkshire and Surrey, consists chiefly of the poor, dark sand, mixed with an ochrey loam, which is well known as the Bagshot heath soil. This extends to Basingstoke. The whole of this part of the county is naturally very unproductive, and till within a few years was almost entirely covered with a brown heath, on which some hardy forest sheep and a few miserable cattle were reared, and contrived to pick up a scanty living. There were however some spots between the hills which contained a few farm buildings and some green fields, forming a striking contrast with the surrounding waste. Within the last thirty

years much of this heath, which lay in common, has been enclosed and divided. Some of it has been brought into cultivation at a great expense, and a considerable portion has been planted with fir-trees, which have thriven wherever the proprietor was at the expense of trenching and draining the land before planting.

The great roads which traverse this part of the county, and the numerous places in which horses have been kept for posting, stage-coaches, and waggons, have caused a supply of manure by which the poor soils immediately around them have been much improved. The very poverty of the soil has set ingenuity to work to produce the most improved practices and implements. Most of the drilling-machines which are used within a certain distance in the counties of Surrey and Berks, as well as in Hampshire, are manufactured in the neighbourhood of Basingstoke.

South of this district, as far as Winchester and a few miles beyond it, the chalk prevails. The soil which lies over this chalk varies in depth, and where it is sufficiently deep produces good crops of barley, wheat, and oats. In many places it lies very near the chalk, and is intermixed with flint and pebbles. Although the appearance of it is not very promising, it is tolerably productive in good seasons; the pebbles and flints reflect the sun's beams, while the

young plant is sheltered by them from the cold easterly winds which in spring sweep over the hills, where few trees break their force.

Where the soil is thin and very near the chalk, it is scarcely fitted for the plough, but remains in the state of down; and the natural grasses which grow there, when kept closely cropped by sheep, are sweet, and make the best sheep-pastures. If these downs are not sufficiently stocked, or if they are reserved for cows, the furze and brambles are apt to overrun them, and the coarse grasses get the upper hand.

In the valleys and along the lower slopes of the chalk-hills the soil is of a tough, tenacious nature, being a mixture of chalk washed down the hills by the rains and stiff clay. This is a soil very difficult to cultivate. In spring it is extremely heavy, and retains moisture a long time; and when dried it becomes so hard, that unless it has been worked at the exact moment when it is dry on the surface, and the clods are still friable, there are no means of reducing it to a proper tilth. But when it is carefully managed and well manured, it produces very good crops of beans, wheat, and oats. This land can scarcely be cultivated and kept clean without occasional fallows, and the most profitable rotation is wheat, beans, oats, fallow. It is much too heavy for turnips. In some spots which are not quite so heavy, the Suffolk rotation of barley, after a long fallow, clover, wheat, beans, and oats, might be introduced with advantage. It is not at all adapted to the

Scotch convertible system; for although grass-seeds might grow well, the land could seldom be depastured with cattle, either in spring or autumn, and after a dry summer it would be almost impossible to plough it up in good time to sow it with wheat. On the eastern side of the county, bordering on Surrey and Sussex, is a small tract of land, which is provincially called malmy land, forming the vale of Petersfield. It has a grey, tender, sandy soil of some depth, lying on a soft sandstone which is almost impervious to water. This circumstance counteracts the advantages of a light soil, unless the water be artificially carried off. On the higher grounds the poor sandy soil is only fit for plantations of firs.

The land in the New Forest, and on the opposite side of the river or estuary below Southampton, is mostly of a light nature, intermixed here and there with heavier loams and clays. Where it is sound and free from springs it is of a good quality; and that which is not, so may be materially improved by judicious under-draining. Some spots in the New Forest were effectually drained many years ago by Mr. Elkington, and have amply repaid the expense incurred, both by the improvement of the land and the greater salubrity of the neighbourhood; for where the land has not been drained, low bogs and marshy places are formed, which are the cause of frequent fevers and agues.

Various kinds of marl are found in many places; some of these are very useful on poor gravelly soils, which

they greatly improve when a sufficient quantity is carried on. The value of marl depends on the union of carbonate of lime and clay, and is readily discovered by its effervescing strongly when any acid is poured upon it. When the quantity of carbonate of lime is small, very good white or red bricks are made of it. The white colour is caused by the calcareous matter, the red by the presence of the oxide of iron.

The Isle of Wight consists principally of chalk, over which are found various soils, such as gravel, sand, and very stiff clay. The mildness of the climate is favourable to vegetation, and there are some neat farms, in which the land is well cultivated.

In traversing the whole country it will be observed that the poorer soils predominate. There are a few fertile spots, and some very valuable water-meadows along the principal rivers, especially the Avon, which runs through the western part of the county bordering on Dorsetshire. Where a farm has a portion of water-meadow and a run for sheep on the downs, the occupier generally thrives; but the greatest agricultural skill is displayed in the cultivation of the poorer soils, where manure must be made on the spot, and the cattle and sheep kept on the produce of the arable land.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Hampshire, although it cannot be compared with some eastern and northern counties for agricultural improvements, is not far behind them; and

there are some farms as well managed as any in England. The great fault lies in the want of economy of labour; too many horses are used; the threshing-machine is not sufficiently common; the stock is not fed so economically as it might be; the manure is not so carefully collected, nor so well prepared, before it is put on the land; and there is a great waste of the liquid part of it on the best managed farms.

The old clumsy plough, once in general use, is now replaced by a lighter and more durable plough, of which the parts the most exposed to wear are made of cast iron. Two horses now plough land which formerly was thought to require four. The seed is put in by a drilling-machine instead of being scattered by the hand. The corn is put into neat stacks raised on stone pillars, and well thatched, instead of being exposed to the depredation of rats in a huge barn. The farm buildings, as well as the house of the farmer, are more commodiously arranged, and there is a general spirit of improvement. The correction of the abuses of the old poor-laws, and the commutation of the tithes for a fixed annual payment, will much encourage the improvement of poor lands; and in half a century the general face of the county will be very different from what it is at present.

CATTLE.

There are no breeds of cattle, horses, or sheep, peculiar to Hampshire, unless we consider the small New Forest ponies in that light. The cows are of various

breeds. The oxen are chiefly Sussex and Devon. The horses used in husbandry are mostly bred in other counties. The sheep are—the common small forest breed, or heath-sheep, which, when tolerably fat, give the high-flavoured mutton formerly known by the name of Bagshot mutton; the Dorset and Leicester sheep, in the richer meadows; and the South Down, on the chalky hills. The last are most numerous, and preferred for folding on the land.

HAMPSHIRE BACON.

Hampshire has long been famous for the curing of bacon; and a Hampshire hog is a very common sign for a public-house; yet the native breed of pigs in this county is by no means remarkable for its good qualities. The native hogs, which live on the acorns and beech-mast of the New Forest, although the flavour of their flesh may be good, are coarse, raw-boned, flat-sided animals, and are now seldom met with. The improved breeds produced by crosses of the Berkshire, the Suffolk, Essex, and Chinese pigs, are so much better and more profitable, that the only difference to be noticed in the pigs bred on different farms is that which arises from the predominant character of any one of the above-mentioned breeds.

The reputation of the Hampshire bacon is owing entirely to the care with which it is cured. The hogs, being fattened on peas and barley-meal, are kept fasting for twenty-four hours at least before they are killed; they are used as gently

as possible in the act of killing, which is done by inserting a long pointed knife into the main artery which comes from the heart. The hair is burnt off with lighted straw, and the cuticle of the skin scraped off. The carcase is hung up after the entrails have been removed, and the next day, when it is quite cold, it is cut up into flitches. The spare-ribs are taken out, and the bloody veins carefully removed: the whole is then covered with salt with a small quantity of saltpetre mixed with it. Sometimes a little brown sugar is added, which gives a pleasant sweetness to the bacon.

The flitches are laid on a low wooden table, which has a small raised border all round it. The table slants a little so as to let the brine run off into a vessel placed under it, by a small opening in the border at the lower end. The flitches are turned and re-salted every day; those which were uppermost are put under, and in three weeks they are ready to be hung up to dry. Smoking the bacon is no longer so common as it used to be, as simply drying it is found sufficient to make it keep. Those who, from early association, like the flavour given by the smoke of wood, burn sawdust and shavings in a smothered fire for some time under the flitches. When they are quite dry, they are either placed on a bacon-rack for the use of the family, or are packed with wheat-chaff into chests till they are sold.

The practice of cutting the hogs into pieces and pickling them in a vat, being attended with less trouble, is very gene-

rally preferred when there is only a sufficient number of hogs killed to serve the farmer's family; but fitches of

bacon, well cured, are more profitable for sale.

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES.

Before the Roman invasion, this county was inhabited by three tribes: the Regni (*Ρηγναι*, Ptol.), who occupied the coast, as well as the counties of Sussex and Surrey; the Belgæ (*Βελγαι*, Ptol.), who inhabited the middle portion, and extended into Wiltshire; and the Atrebatæ, or Atrebatii (*Ατρεβατται*, Ptol.), who occupied, it is likely, the northern part on the confines of Berkshire. Winchester appears to have been a British town antecedently to its being occupied as a Roman station, and Silchester also, if it may be identified with Calleva Atrebatum. This part of the island was reduced by the Romans, probably under Vespasian, who is distinctly recorded by Suetonius (*Vespas.*, c. iv.) as having subjugated the Isle of Wight, called by the Romans Vectis (*Οἰκναις*, Ptolemy). It was comprehended in Britannia Prima, and was crossed by several Roman roads, and contained several Roman stations. It was Camden's opinion that the Trisanton river, mentioned by Ptolemy (*Τριάντωνος ποταμὸν Ἰβηλαί*) was the Anton or Test: perhaps it was the Southampton Water, with all the streams that flow into it. Others, however, identify the Trisanton with the Arun of Sussex. If Trisanton be a represen-

tation of the British Traeth Anton, 'the estuary or frith of Anton,' it is a designation peculiarly suitable to Southampton Water. The Roman station Clausentum, mentioned in the *Iter vii.* of Antoninus, is generally admitted to have been near Southampton. At Bittern farm abundance of Roman remains are found, and modern antiquaries seem to agree in fixing the station at this spot, which is on the east side of the Itchin, by a bend in which it is nearly surrounded. There are remains of the Roman works, a ditch, and part of a rampart on the land side, composed of earth, flints, and large flat bricks, and faced roughly with small square stones. A quantity of Roman coins and of fine red pottery, a glass urn, and sculptured and other stones have been dug up. The area of the station is about half a mile in circumference: Southampton probably arose from its ruins. In the latter part of the name Clausentum we probably discern the same root which may be traced in Trisanton, Southampton, and Hampton- (now shortened into Hamp-) shire. Another station mentioned by Antoninus is Venta (a Roman modification of the more ancient British name *Caer Gwent*, 'the white city'), distinguished from some

other places of the same name, as 'Venta Belgarum.' Ptolemy mentions Venta, or as he writes it *Ovira*, as one of the towns of the Belgæ. It is the modern Winchester, the first part of which name is a corruption of the British Gwent, or the Roman Venta. This was an important station: the walls with which the Romans enclosed it yet form the chief part, though frequently repaired and much altered, of the town walls. Roman tombs containing human bones, sepulchral urns, and some other antiquities, have been discovered just outside the town walls. An entrenchment on St. Catherine's Hill, south of the city, is perhaps the Roman *castra æstiva*, or summer camp.

The county appears to have been the scene of contest in the Saxon invasion. Cerdic, who founded the kingdom of Wessex, is said to have defeated and slain in the New Forest a British chieftain who bore the name of Natanleod. Hampshire was included in the kingdom of Wessex, and Venta, called by the Saxons Wintanceaster, became the seat of Government. Here Cerdic was buried, and here, on the conversion of the West Saxons to Christianity, a bishop's see was established. In the contests of the Saxon princes the Isle of Wight was taken by Wulfhere, king of Mercia, and annexed by him to the kingdom of Sussex: it was, however, soon after reconquered by Ceadwalla, king of Wessex. Upon the predominance of the West Saxon kings over the other Saxon potentates being permanently established by Egbert, Win-

chester became the metropolis of England.

When the Northmen attacked the island, Hampshire was exposed to their ravages. In the reign of Ethelbert, grandson of Egbert, (A.D. 860—866), a body of them landed at Southampton, and advanced to Winchester, which they partially laid waste: they were routed, however, as they returned to their ships, and much of the booty recovered. At Basing, near Basingstoke, Ethelred I., king of Wessex, and his brother Alfred, were defeated by the Danes, A.D. 870. A year or two after, viz., in 871 or 873, in the reign of Alfred, the invaders made another attack on Winchester, damaged the cathedral and murdered the ecclesiastics belonging to it. From the time of Alfred's restoration the county experienced scarcely any hostility till the time of Ethelred II., in whose reign, about the close of the tenth century, the Danes ravaged the Isle of Wight. In the civil dissensions of the reign of Edward the Confessor, the same island was infested by Godwin, earl of Kent, and his son Harold, then in rebellion: and in the subsequent reign of Harold II. it was laid under contribution by Tostig, the king's rebellious brother. Winchester continued to be the principal seat of royalty in the reign of William the Conqueror.

The New Forest became the scene of several disasters which befel the family of William the Conqueror, and which were regarded as judgments on him for the arbitrary and cruel

manner in which he had afforested this district: his conduct, however, has been much exaggerated. His son Richard lost his life here by what Camden describes as a "pestilential blast;" his grandson Henry, son of Robert, was entangled among the branches, and killed while hunting; and his successor, William Rufus, was shot by a random arrow by Walter Tyrrel, A.D. 1100. (See chap. ix.) Upon Rufus's death, Henry, his brother, hastened to Winchester, where he possessed himself of the royal treasure, and afterwards succeeded to the crown. Robert, his elder brother, to whom the succession rightfully belonged, landed at Portsmouth with an army the next year (A.D. 1101) to enforce his claim; but finding his rival too strong, came to an accommodation with him and retired.

In the civil war between the supporters of King Stephen (then a prisoner) and the Empress Maud, Winchester was the scene of conflict. The cathedral and Wolvesey Castle, the residence of Henry of Blois, bishop of Winchester and brother of Stephen, were in the hands of the king's party, and Winchester Castle and other parts of the city in the hands of the empress. The empress's friends were gradually dispossessed of all they held, except the castle; and, when this was hard pressed, it is said that the empress escaped by being carried through the opposing army, wrapped in a sheet of lead, like a corpse for interment. Her natural brother and chief supporter, the earl of

Gloucester, was taken soon after at Stockbridge, and exchanged for the captive king. In the civil war which marked the close of the reign of John, Odiham Castle was gallantly but vainly defended for that prince against the revolted barons and the Dauphin, Louis of France.

At the commencement of the French war of Edward III., A.D. 1338, the town of Southampton was attacked by the French with their allies the Genoese and Spaniards. Their fleet was of fifty galleys. They took the town, burned the greater part of it, and slaughtered many of the inhabitants. About the close of the reign of Edward III., or the commencement of that of Richard II., another attack was made on this town, but failed. About the same period the Isle of Wight was attacked by the French, and Newtown and Yarmouth burned, and Carisbrook Castle vainly besieged. In A.D. 1415, when Henry V. was about to embark at Southampton for France, a conspiracy against his life was detected; for which the Earl of Cambridge and others were executed in that town. In the reign of the same monarch the Isle of Wight was once attacked and a second time threatened by the French. About the close of the reign of Henry VIII. another attack was made by the same people, but repulsed. It was at Winchester that Mary I. was married to Philip of Spain, A.D. 1554.

In the beginning of the reign of Charles I. the duke of Buckingham was stabbed at Portsmouth, and in the

civil war of that reign this county was the scene of partial hostilities. The strong posts of the Isle of Wight were early in the contest secured for the parliament, and the island was thus preserved from subsequent disturbance. In December, 1643, the Royalists were defeated at Alton by Sir William Waller. But the most remarkable event in the contest that occurred in this county was the defence of Basing House, near Basingstoke, by its possessor, John Paulet, marquis of Winchester, the chief incidents of which are related in a sub-

sequent page. In A.D. 1647, Charles I., after his escape from Hampton Court, remained concealed at Titchfield House till he gave himself up to Colonel Hammond, governor of the Isle of Wight. He was imprisoned for some time at Carisbrook, and afterwards at Hurst Castle.

The country contains several relics of the ancient state of the county: these are noticed elsewhere. The chief monastic remains are at Netley, Beaulieu, Winchester, and Romsey.

POLITICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

POPULATION AND OCCUPATIONS.

Hampshire is an agricultural county, few of its inhabitants being engaged in manufactures: it ranks the 22nd in the list of agricultural counties. Of 74,711 males twenty years of age and upwards living in the county in 1831 there were 28,683 employed in agricultural pursuits, and only 292 in manufactures or in manufacturing machinery; 10,348 were employed as labourers not agricultural.

The population of the county at each of the four enumerations made in the present century was—

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Inc. per ct.
1801	105,667	113,989	219,656	..
1811	118,855	126,225	245,080	11.57
1821	138,373	144,925	283,298	15.59
1831	152,082	162,198	314,280	10.94

showing an increase between the first and last periods of 94,624, or rather more than 43 per cent., which is 14 per cent. below the whole rate of increase throughout England. The population is 193 per square mile, while the average for the whole of England is 259. The density of the population in the counties of Berks, Bucks, Norfolk and Suffolk is nearly the same as in Hampshire, these counties varying only from 193 to 198 per square mile.

The following table contains a summary of the occupations and population on the mainland separately, and also in the Isle of Wight and the mainland together:—

<i>Houses.</i>	<i>Mainland.</i>	<i>Isle of Wight.</i>	<i>Whole County.</i>
Inhabited	50,715	5,811	56,526
Families	57,968	6,684	64,652
Building	478	44	522
Uninhabited	1,763	254	2,017
<i>Occupations.</i>			
Families chiefly employed in agriculture	20,532	2,229	22,761
" " trade, manufactures,			
and handicraft	18,763	2,220	20,983
All other families not comprised in the			
two preceding classes	18,673	2,235	20,908
<i>Persons.</i>			
Males	134,877	17,205	152,082
Females	143,972	18,226	162,198
Total of Persons	278,849	35,431	314,280
Males twenty years of age	66,652	8,059	74,711
<i>Agriculture.</i>			
Occupiers employing labourers	2,490	284	2,774
" not employing labourers	1,049	185	1,234
Labourers employed in Agriculture	22,305	2,370	24,675
<i>Other Occupations.</i>			
Employed in manufacture, or in making			
manufacturing machinery	233	59	292
Employed in retail trade, or in handicraft			
as masters or workmen	20,614	2,550	23,164
Capitalists, bankers, professional and			
other educated men	3,415	369	3,784
Labourers employed in labour, not agri-			
cultural	8,925	1,423	10,348
Other males twenty years of age (except			
servants)	5,526	591	6,117
Male servants, twenty years of age	2,095	228	2,323
" under twenty years of age	876	96	972
Female servants	11,170	1,544	12,724

The number of persons qualified to vote for the county members of Hampshire in 1838 was 8983, being about 1 in 35 of the whole population, and above 1 in 8 of the male population twenty years and upwards, as taken in 1831.

LEGAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The most ancient division of the

county is into hundreds, of which there were fifty at the time of the Domesday survey. There are now thirty-nine hundreds, besides the city of Winchester with the liberty of Soke, the borough of Portsmouth with the district of Portsea and Portsea Guildable, the town and county of Southampton, and eleven liberties, including the liberties of East

and West Medina in the Isle of Wight. From the great number of the hundreds and liberties they have been arranged in 'divisions' for administrative purposes. At the time of the census in 1831 there were ten of these divisions including the Isle of Wight; but by a subsequent arrangement made under the direction of the magistrates of the county, the divisions of the county have been increased to thirteen, not including the Isle of Wight. They are as follow:—Alton, Andover, Basingstoke, Droxford, Fareham, Kingsclere, Lymington, Odiham, Petersfield, Ringwood, Romsey, Southampton, and Winchester.—There are two liberties or divisions in the Isle of Wight, East and West Medina.

Hampshire, not including the Isle of Wight, contains one city, Winchester; six parliamentary boroughs, Andover, Christchurch, Lymington, Petersfield, Portsmouth, and Southampton; and thirteen other market-towns, Alresford, Alton, Basingstoke, Bishop's Waltham, Fareham, Fordingbridge, Gosport, Havant, Kingsclere, Odiham, Romsey, Stockbridge, and Whitechurch. The principal towns in the Isle of Wight are Newport and Ryde.

The county is in the Western circuit: the assizes and quarter-sessions are held at Winchester. For the election of members of parliament, the county was by the Reform Act divided into two parts. The Northern division comprehends Alton, Andover, Basingstoke, Droxford, Kingsclere, Odiham, Petersfield, and Winchester divisions; the

chief place of election is Winchester, and the polling stations are Winchester, Alton, Andover, Basingstoke, Kingsclere, Odiham, Petersfield, and Bishop's Waltham. The Southern division comprehends Fareham, Lymington, Ringwood, Romsey, and Southampton divisions; the chief place of election is Southampton, and the polling stations are Southampton, Fareham, Lymington, Portsmouth, Ringwood, and Romsey. The Isle of Wight was by the same act severed from the county for parliamentary purposes, and allowed to return one member: the chief place of election is Newport, and the polling stations are Newport and West Cowes. Formerly, two members each were returned from the city of Winchester, the boroughs of Christchurch, Lymington, Portsmouth, Southampton, Andover, Petersfield, Stockbridge, and Whitechurch, and for the boroughs of Newport, Newtown, and Yarmouth, in the Isle of Wight. By the Reform Act, Stockbridge, Whitechurch, Newtown, and Yarmouth were disfranchised, and Christchurch and Petersfield reduced to one member each. The act, by regulating the franchise, opened the city of Winchester, and the boroughs of Portsmouth, Christchurch, Lymington, Petersfield, Andover, and Newport, which were all previously close.

Hampshire is included in the diocese of Winchester and the ecclesiastical province of Canterbury, and constitutes (inclusive of the Isle of Wight) the archdeaconry of Winchester. This archdeaconry is subdivided into ten

caneries, viz., Alresford, Alton, Anover, Basingstoke, Dorkinsford, or Droxford, Fordingbridge, Sombourn, Southampton, Winchester, and the Isle of Wight. The number of churches and chapels is given in Warner's 'Collections' at 277. In Lewis's 'Topographical Dictionary' the number of benefices is given at 305, viz., 154

rectories, 72 vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. From the Report of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners it appears that the number of rectories is 144, vicarages 75, perpetual curacies 33, curacies 62; besides 12 sinecure rectories and donative curacies.

For the administration of relief to the poor the county is divided into 23 unions.

CIVIC ECONOMY.

LOCAL TAXATION AND EXPENDITURE.

The amount of property estimated and assessed in Hampshire under the different schedules of the property-tax in 1814-15 was as follows:—Assessed to the owner, 1,236,563*l.*, namely, property from lands, 707,127*l.*; houses, 67,596*l.*; tithes, 139,873*l.*; manors, 221*l.*; fines, 9692*l.*; mines, 169*l.*; iron works, &c., 9715*l.* Assessed to the occupier, 706,550*l.*; profits of trade, &c., 918,872*l.*; public offices and employments, 10,716*l.*

The sums expended for the relief of the poor at the four dates of—

	£	For each inhabitant.	
		s.	d.
1801 were	124,019, being	11	3
1811 "	225,601 "	18	4
1821 "	193,294 "	13	7
1831 "	215,229 "	13	8
1837 "	123,840 "	7	11

Assuming that the population had increased at the same rate of progression as in the ten preceding years, the above sum of 123,840*l.* gives an average of 7*s.* 6*d.* for each inhabitant. These averages are all above those for the whole of England and Wales.

The sum raised in Hampshire for poor-rate, county-rate, and other local purposes, in the year ending the 25th of March, 1833, was 248,176*l.*, and was levied upon the various descriptions of property as follows:—On land, 180,534*l.*; dwelling-houses, 58,680*l.*; mill, factories, &c., 4112*l.*; manorial profits, navigation, &c., 4949*l.* The amount expended was—For the relief of the poor, 211,075*l.*; in suits of law, removal of paupers, &c., 5467*l.*; for other purposes, 35,980*l.*; total, 252,523*l.*

In the returns made up for subsequent years, the descriptions of property assessed are not specified. In the years 1834, 1835, 1836, and 1837, there were raised 243,525*l.*, 211,826*l.*, 177,547*l.*, and 151,240*l.* respectively; and the expenditure of two of these years was as follows:—

	1834.		1837.	
	£.	s.	£.	s.
For the relief of the poor . . .	203,466	4	133,840	
In suits of law, removals, &c. .	6,545	11	2,105	
Payment towards the county- rate . . .	33,934	17	15,597	
For all other purposes . . .			13,297	
Total money expended . . .	£243,946	13	154,839	

The saving effected on the whole sum

expended in 1837, as compared with that expended in 1834, was therefore about 36½ per cent.; and the saving effected on the sum expended for the relief of the poor was rather more than 39 per cent. in 1837, as compared with the expenditure in 1834.

The county expenditure in 1834, exclusive of that for the relief of the poor, was 19,618*l.*, disbursed as follows:—Bridges, building, and repairs, &c., 1247*l.*; gaols, houses of correction, &c., and maintaining prisoners, &c., 3909*l.*; shire-halls and courts of justice, building, repairing, &c., 898*l.*; prosecutions, 2999*l.*; clerk of the peace, 732*l.*; conveyance of prisoners before trial, 791*l.*; conveyance of transports, 91*l.*; constables, high and special, 71*l.*; coroner, 298*l.*; debt, payment of, principal and interest, 6165*l.*; miscellaneous, 2412*l.*

CRIME.

The number of persons charged with criminal offences in the three septennial periods ending with 1820, 1827, and 1834, were 2085, 2190, and 3187 respectively; making an average of 298 annually in the first period, of 313 in the second period, and of 455 in the third period. In the five years ending with 1839 the annual average had increased to 576. The class of crimes most prevalent are offences against property committed without violence. Out of twenty-two agricultural counties, only two are exceeded by Hampshire in the average proportion of criminals to the population; and one of these counties adjoins the metropolitan

county. In 1829, at the assizes and sessions, 642 persons were charged with crime in Hampshire. Of the whole number of offenders, 517 were males, and 125 were females; 214 could neither read nor write; 364 could read and write imperfectly; 56 could read and write well; 1 had superior instruction, and the degree of instruction of 6 could not be ascertained.

SAVINGS' BANKS.

There are eleven savings' banks in this county. The number of depositors and amount of deposits on the 20th of November in each of the following years were—

	1832.	1834.	1836.	1838.
Number of depositors . .	7,700	9,237	10,408	13,516
Amount of deposits . .	£ 979,299	£ 322,493	£ 356,456	£ 415,833

In 1835, the number of depositors of sums under 20*l.* in each 1000 of the population of the county was 15, and of depositors of the several classes, 35 in 1000; the proportion for England being respectively 18 and 35 to each 1000 of the population.

EDUCATION.

From the Parliamentary Returns on Education, made in the session of 1835 (which however are not always to be depended upon), it appears that the number of daily schools in the county was 1197, and of Sunday schools 440, and that 38,733 children were attending the former, and 32,412 the latter. We find by approximation that there were 108,217 children between the ages

of two and fifteen in the county of Hampshire in 1834, the time the educational inquiry was made; and allowing for a number of children having been entered twice as under instruction in Sunday and day-schools, we may perhaps fairly conclude that not two-thirds

of the children between the ages of two and fifteen were receiving instruction in the county. One hundred boarding schools are included in the number of daily schools: lending libraries are attached to ninety-two daily and Sunday schools.

CHAPTER II.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN LONDON
AND HAMPSHIRE.

SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

THE railway communication between London and the county of Hants is by the London and South-western Railway, formerly called the London and Southampton Railway. This railway begins on the right bank of the Thames, at a place called Nine Elms, in the parish of Battersea, a short distance above Vauxhall-bridge, and terminates at the beach of the Southampton Water. It passes through or near to Wandsworth, Wimbledon, Morton, Kingston, Thames Ditton, Esher, Walton-upon-Thames, Weybridge, Chertsey, and Woking, all in the county of Surrey. At Farnborough, $31\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the London terminus, the railway enters Hampshire, and passes through or near the following places: Odiham, Basing, Basingstoke, Worting, Popham, Mitcheldever, Winchester, Twyford, and Bishop's Stoke to Southampton. The course of the line from London to Basingstoke is west-south-west, and for the remaining distance south-south-west: the entire length of the line is $76\frac{1}{2}$, of which $48\frac{1}{2}$ miles are in Hampshire.

The following are the stations for king up and depositing passengers,

and the distance of each from London and from each other:—

	<i>Surrey.</i>	Dist. from London.	Dist. from each Station.
Nine Elms to	Wandsworth	3	3
"	Wimbledon	6	3
"	Kingston	10	4
"	Esher & Hampton Court	13	3
"	Walton	$15\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$
"	Weybridge	$17\frac{1}{2}$	2
"	Woking	23	$5\frac{1}{2}$
	<i>Hampshire.</i>		
"	Farnborough	$31\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{1}{2}$
"	Winchfield	38	$6\frac{1}{2}$
"	Basingstoke	46	8
"	Andover-road	56	10
"	Winchester	64	8
"	Southampton	$76\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{1}{2}$

Having one of its termini at the water's edge in Southampton Harbour, and the other on the banks of the Thames, the South-western Railway affords every facility for traffic which nature and art combined can give. An idea, however, generally prevails that the London terminus is situated at an inconvenient distance from the populous parts of the metropolis; but it is actually nearer the two great central points of the Royal Exchange and Charing Cross than either of the other two great lines of railway, which termi-

nate at Paddington and at Euston-square, as the following table will show :—

Distance from each Railway Terminus.	To Charing Cross		To the Royal Ex- change.	
	Miles.	Chains.	Miles.	Chains.
London and Birming- ham, Euston-square	1	65	3	16
Great Western, at Paddington . . .	2	60	4	26
South-western, at Vauxhall . . .	1	77	3	9

Omnibuses start before the departure of each train from the Spread Eagle in Gracechurch-street; Swan with Two Necks, Lad-lane; Cross Keys, Wood-street, Cheapside; White Horse, Fetter-lane; George and Blue Boar, Holborn; Golden Cross, Charing Cross; and the Universal Office, in Regent-street. The traveller availing himself of these conveyances, the fare by which is 8*d.*, will be certain of arriving in time for the trains. The steam-boats plying above London Bridge, and which start every quarter of an hour, also convey passengers to and from the Railroad Station, for the charge of 4*d.*, calling at the Southwark, Blackfriars, Waterloo, and Westminster Bridges; and some of them call at intermediate places, but occasionally, when the tide is unfavourable, these boats do not arrive in time for the trains, unless passengers embark a quarter of an hour earlier than may be necessary when the tide is favourable.

The number of trains starting from each end of the line on week-days is thirteen, and on Sundays seven. The time occupied by the fast trains in the

journey from the Vauxhall Station to Southampton, including stoppages, is three hours. By the goods' train, which is six hours, the fare to Southampton is only 7*s.*; and by other classes of carriages 12*s.*, 18*s.*, and 20*s.* By the trains which stop at every station on the line the fare to Southampton is 12*s.* in the second class of carriages, and the journey is performed in three hours and forty-eight minutes.

The line has been completed at a cost of about 2,000,000*l.* It was opened to Woking Common, twenty-three miles from London, May 21st, 1838; on the 24th of September, in the same year, a further opening was made to Shapley Heath, thirty-eight miles from the London terminus; on the 10th of June, 1839, the line was made available as far as Basingstoke, forty-six miles from London; and at the same time an opening was effected between Southampton and Winchester, leaving only eighteen miles uncompleted. On May 11th, 1840, the railway was opened throughout its whole extent.

The following is a statement of the monthly traffic on the railway from the 1st of January, 1840, to the 30th of June following :—

	Passengers.	Amount. £
Jan. . .	33,707	8,275
Feb. . .	32,405½	7,870
March . .	40,392	9,189
April . .	51,344	11,224
May . .	58,701	17,981
June . .	84,256½	25,915
Total .	300,806	80,457

The passenger traffic for the first

three months after the entire opening of the railway, namely, from the 11th of May to the 10th of August, produced 75,141*l.*; and during the months of July and August the receipts amounted to upwards of 1000*l.* per day, Sundays included. The traffic in goods has been comparatively inconsiderable, and it is found by experience that goods are conveyed by the previously existing modes of transport long after a more eligible medium has been in existence. Proposals have been made for constructing branch railways from Guildford to the South-western line at Woking; and from Salisbury to Hook Pit, near Winchester. A branch from Gosport will join the South-western Railway at Bishop's Stoke, near Southampton; and the contractor is under engagements to complete the works from Bishop's Stoke to Fareham by the 1st of May, 1841: from Fareham to Gosport the works are very light. In addition to these feeders of the main line we may reckon that the railway from Rouen to Paris will induce many persons who visit Paris to prefer the voyage from Southampton to Havre, owing to the railway facilities which this route affords in each country.

We shall now accompany the reader to each of the stations on the line within the county of Hants, commencing at the Farnborough station, which the traveller starting from London may reach in less than one hour and a quarter by one of the fast trains. Before leaving each station the principal market-towns and places of interest nearest to it will

be described and its situation pointed out, so that this little work may form a Railway-Excursion Guide for the County. At the same time, while making the railway the chief basis of a tour in Hampshire, the great lines of road will be fully noticed, still keeping in view their bearing in reference to the Railway.

TURNPIKE ROADS.

There are four great thoroughfares from London through Hampshire; the principal one is—1. The great western road to Exeter, Falmouth and Penzance. This road enters the county three miles north-west of the Farnborough station, between Bagshot (just beyond which it branches off from the Southampton-road) and Basingstoke; it passes through Basingstoke, Whitechurch, and Andover to Salisbury, in Wiltshire. Two miles west of Basingstoke this road forms an angle with the railway, the former bearing west by south, and the latter leaving the road in a direction south-south-west. The Farnborough, Winchfield, and Basingstoke stations are none of them situated far from this road; and even west of Basingstoke, the Andover-road station is not much more than six miles from Whitechurch, and eleven from Andover.

2. The high road from London to Southampton enters Hampshire near the Farnborough station; and, after leaving the county to pass through Farnham, situated in a projecting corner of Sussex, it re-enters Hampshire and passes through Alton, Alresford, and

Winchester. Farnham is about six miles south of the Farnborough station; Alton about seven miles south of the station at Winchfield; and south-west of Alton, the station nearest this road, is the one at Winchester.

3. The London and Portsmouth road passes along the eastern side of the county through Petersfield and the villages of Horndean and Cosham, and is, for the whole of its course, at a considerable distance from any railway station; Petersfield is nearly twenty miles from the Winchester station. When the contemplated railway from Gosport to the South-western railway is formed, some part of the traffic on the roads on the eastern side of Hampshire will be attracted to the railway.

4. The London and Gosport road branches off from the London and Portsmouth road about a mile and a half south-west of Farnham, and passing through Alton, inclines a little to the west, through Fareham. This road approaches much nearer the railroad than the London and Portsmouth road, and a line carried from the road to the Winchester station, in a direction due east, would be about thirteen miles. At Alton, and north-east of that town, the road is identical with the London and Southampton road; and its bearings in reference to the railway are the same as are described above in the notice of that road. (2.)

CHAPTER III.

THE FARNBOROUGH STATION.

THE Farnborough Station, $31\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London, is situated just within the north-eastern corner of Hampshire, about 210 feet above the level of the Vauxhall terminus. It is the key to four important roads, leading to the following places:—1. To Portsmouth, by Farnham and Petersfield.—2. To Gosport, by Alton.—3. To Southampton, by Bishop's Waltham.—4. To Winchester, by Alresford.—Few persons, on an excursion of pleasure, would think of proceeding either to Winchester or Southampton by any other mode than the railway; but for many other purposes the high road may be preferred, and we therefore give a brief notice of each of the above routes, indicating at the same time the distance of the most important places from the nearest railway station.

1. *To Portsmouth.*

Most of the Portsmouth coaches which are put upon the railway at the London terminus leave the line at the Woking Station, in Surrey, $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles before reaching the station at Farnborough: they proceed through Guildford and enter the present road at Farnham. Some of them pass through Godalming; and the only part of the road

under notice which they travel is that lying south of Petersfield. Before the opening of the railway the number of coaches travelling between London and Portsmouth (including two mails) was nineteen, conveying on an average about 1300 passengers weekly; and until the branch railway from Gosport to Bishop's Stoke be opened a large portion of this traffic will be confined to the turnpike-road.

About ten miles from Farnham, three miles west of the present road, and midway between it and the London and Gosport road, is the village of SELBORNE, the birth-place of the Rev. Gilbert White. Here he spent a long and serene life, affording a most pleasing example of the pleasures and advantages arising from the observation of nature in any spot, however limited. The enthusiasm with which he carried on his investigations had an ample field for its exercise in this district, and within its limits he gathered facts and information which escaped the attention of naturalists employed in a more extensive sphere, and thus rendered himself a welcome correspondent of eminent scientific men. The pedestrian at least will be tempted to pay a visit to Selborne; and a pleasanter excursion from London can scarcely be

made than to this place, proceeding by the railway to the Farnborough Station, thence to Farnham and Alton, and from the latter place across the country by the parish roads. The district of which Selborne is the centre is thus described by White:—"The soils of this district are almost as various and diversified as the views and aspects. The high part to the south-west consists of a vast hill of chalk rising three hundred feet above the village, and is divided into a sheep-down, the high wood, and a long hanging wood called the Hanger. The covert of this eminence is principally beech, the most lovely of all forest trees, whether we consider its smooth rind or bark, its glossy foliage, or graceful pendulous boughs. The down, or sheep-walk, is a pleasing park-like spot, of about one mile by half that space, jutting out on the verge of the hill country, where it begins to break down into the plains, and commanding a very engaging view, being an assemblage of hill, dale, woodlands, heath and water. The prospect is bounded to the south-east and east by the vast range of mountains called the Sussex Downs, by Guild-down, near Guildford, and by the downs round Dorking and Reigate, in Surrey, to the south-east; which altogether, with the country beyond Alton and Farnham, form a noble and extensive outline." The "hangers" are almost peculiar to Hampshire; they are woods growing down the sides of very steep hills. There are roads down some of the "hangers" which are so steep that it is not possible to proceed down them on

horseback. Hawkley "hanger" is equally famous with the one at Selborne, from which it is about 5 miles distant in a direction south by east, and it is a little nearer the London and Portsmouth road than Selborne. From the summit of Hawkley "hanger" the spectator looks down upon the villages of Hawkley, Greatham, Selborne, and some others. The scene which meets his eyes may be thus described:—"From the south-east, round, southward, to the north-west, the main valley has cross valleys running out of it, the hills on the sides of which are very steep, and, in many parts, covered with wood. The hills that form these cross valleys run out into the main valley like piers into the sea. Two of these promontories, of great height, are on the west side of the main valley. The ends of these promontories are nearly perpendicular, and the tops so high in the air that you cannot look at the village below without something like a feeling of apprehension. From the south-west, round, eastward, to the north, lie the heaths of which Wolmer Forest makes a part, and these go gradually rising up to Hindhead, the crown of which is to the north-west, leaving the rest of the circle (the part from north to north-west) to be occupied by a continuation of the valley towards Headley, Binstead, Frensham, and the Holt Forest." Some of the roads in the vicinity of Selborne are very bad in wet weather, the mud being "the colour of rye-meal mixed up with water, and just about as clammy." Gilbert White has given an account of

two of these roads, the one leading to Alton and the other to Wolmer Forest:—"These roads, running through the malm lands, are, by the traffic of ages and the fretting of water, worn down through the first stratum of oar freestone, and partly through the second; so that they look more like watercourses than roads. and are bedded with naked rags for furlongs together. In many places they are reduced sixteen or eighteen feet beneath the level of the fields."

ALICE HOLT and WOLMER FOREST, between the London and Portsmouth and London and Southampton roads, are divided into two parts by intervening private property, namely, Alice Holt, near the Southampton road, a little beyond Farnham, and Wolmer, nearer the Portsmouth road, between Liphook and Petersfield. The forest of Wolmer is about seven miles long by two and a half in breadth, running nearly from north to south. The soil is sand covered with heath and fern. The surface is somewhat diversified with hills and dales, and comparatively recent plantations of fir. In the beginning of the last century a stately herd of 500 red deer were kept in the forest, the whole of which were made to pass before Queen Anne as she was journeying to Portsmouth. Some time before the middle of the century, not more than fifty head remained, which were taken alive to Windsor Park. The poachers called the Waltham Blacks had caused this reduction in their numbers. There are three considerable lakes in the forest, Hogmer, Cranmer, and Wolmer, but

fish do not thrive very well in them. An extraordinary number of coins was found in Wolmer Pond in 1741, when its bed had become dry in consequence of two summers in succession with scarcely any rain. They consisted of many hundreds of Roman copper coins, all of the Lower Empire. The Forest contains altogether nearly 15,500 acres, more than half of which belongs to the Crown. The growing timber in Alice Holt is of considerable value: the soil is a strong loam. There were fallow deer in the Holt in the year 1767, but the poachers were constantly harassing them and thinning their numbers, and now none remain. Like the other forests of the county it had during the last century been much neglected. In the marshy bottoms of Wolmer Forest many trees have been found and dug up with the peat.

PETERSFIELD is a small, neat country town, having but little trade, any consequence which it possesses arising from its lying on the high road from London to Portsmouth. It is 52 miles south-west from London; 18 miles east by south by the road from Winchester; and 18½ from Portsmouth. There are roads to Haslemere and Midhurst in Sussex, the former being 12 miles from Petersfield and the latter 9 miles. The town is partly lighted with gas, tolerably paved, and amply supplied with water. Fairs for sheep and horses are held March 5, July 10, and December 11. The market-day is Saturday. The assessed taxes levied in 1830 amounted to 540*l*. The population of the town

and parish in 1831 was 1803. The living, attached to the chapelry of Petersfield, is a curacy, which, with the rectory of Buriton, are in the diocese of Winchester and patronage of the bishop of that see, and yield an average net income of 1194*l*. Near the chapel is an equestrian statue of William III. There is a school called Churcher's College, from the name of the founder, who, in 1722, bequeathed the sum of 3000*l*. Bank stock and 500*l*. in cash for its establishment and support. Several acts of parliament have been obtained for regulating the expenditure of the funds of the charity, which have increased considerably.

According to the Corporation Reports, no royal charter of incorporation is known to have been conferred upon the town; but in Warner's 'History of Hampshire,' and in other works, it is stated to have been incorporated by a charter of Queen Elizabeth, which is also confirmed by the Report of the Commissioners on the boundary of the borough. The town is governed by a mayor, chosen annually at the court-leet of the lord of the manor, but the functions of the mayor are merely nominal. The borough of Petersfield returned members to parliament as early as Edward I., and two members continuously from the reign of Edward VI. till the passing of the Reform Act, since which it has been represented by one member. The present parliamentary boundary includes the old borough of Petersfield and a considerable portion of the adjacent neighbourhood.

About 10 miles from Petersfield the road passes through the FOREST of BERE. This forest extends southward to Portsdown-hill, and its bounds, according to a perambulation made in 1688, and still observed, comprehend about 16,000 acres, of which one-third is enclosed. It is divided into two larger divisions, the East and West Walks, with some smaller portions dependent on these, and is under the control of a warden and other officers. The quantity of timber grown in this forest is trifling compared with what it once yielded. Some deer are kept.

SOUTHWICK Park is on the right, midway between this and the London and Gosport road. The mansion is erected upon the site of an old manor-house built here in the time of James I., and in which two monarchs were entertained, Charles I. and George I. The former was here at the time of Buckingham's assassination; the king having accompanied his favourite thus far from London on the road to Portsmouth, from whence the latter was to lead an expedition against the French. Charles was at prayers in the chapel when Sir John Hippeasley came in, and whispered the melancholy tidings he had brought into his ear; and Lord Clarendon states that the king remained in the discharge of his duties till the service was over, when he retired and burst into the bitterest lamentations. Sir Daniel Norton was then the possessor of Southwick; his family had been settled here for a very remote period. His successor, Col. Norton, dis-

tinguished himself in behalf of the Parliament during the civil war. The grandson of this gentleman, who was a highly accomplished person, an excellent actor (he had a theatre fitted up here) and the writer, it was supposed, of a tragedy which Sir Samuel Garth praised, was the last heir male of the family. By his will he bequeathed the whole of his property, amounting to 6000*l.* a year and 60,000*l.* in personals, to the Parliament, in trust for the use of "the poor, hungry, thirsty, naked strangers, sick, wounded and prisoners, to the end of the world." The will was, however, set aside on the ground of insanity, and the estates passed to his relatives. The mansion is a truly elegant one: its principal front, which faces the south, is built of stone, and has a colonnade extending the whole length, and reaching to about half the height of the house. The central portion projects with a circular sweep. A finer situation than Southwick enjoys it would be difficult to find. The park is well stocked with game. Through the grounds, which are beautifully laid out, flows a clear stream of water. Within the boundaries of the park stood the ancient priory of Black Canons, where Henry VI. and Margaret of Anjou were married.

On the west of the road, at a distance of 1½ mile is **BUTSER HILL**, 917 feet above the level of the sea. It is the highest eminence in the county, and terminates the chain of the South Down Hills to the westward. From the top of this hill, the ridge of which is not above 130 or

150 yards wide in one part, the spectator looks down into a deep valley on each side; and the prospect in every part of the horizon is also very extensive; including the hills of North Hampshire, and great part of Surrey and Sussex, with the South Downs to the eastward; and southward, looking over Portsdown-hill, there are views of Portsmouth, Spithead, and the Isle of Wight. Five miles before reaching Portsmouth the road passes the eastern end of **PORTSDOWN-HILL**, the shape of which has been described as resembling, "an oblong tin cover to a dish." Its extent is about 7 miles from east to west, Bedhampton being at the foot of the eastern extremity, and Fareham at the western: it is 447 feet above the level of the sea. Excellent crops of corn are grown on the hill-side, and the harvest is said to commence here earlier than in any part of the south of England.

After skirting the eastern extremity of Portsdown-hill the road passes through the village of **COSHAM**, where it crosses the road from Southampton to Chichester. Between Cosham and Portsmouth, a distance of 4½ miles, there is no place particularly noticeable.

2. To Gosport.

This is a branch of the London and Portsmouth road, which it leaves about ½ mile south-west of Farnham. It passes through Alton, West Meon, Warnford, Exton, Carhampton, Droxford, and through Fareham.

Arthur Young called the vale between Farnham and Alton the finest

ten miles in England; and its beauties have been thus described by Mr. Cobbett : * — “ Here is a river with fine meadows on each side of it, and with rising grounds on each outside of the meadows, those grounds having some hop-gardens and some pretty woods.” Cobbett, though he was born in this vale, gives the preference to the ten miles between Maidstone and Tunbridge, called the Garden of England by the people of Kent; but even this latter beautiful district had fewer charms in his eyes than the north of Hampshire.

About three miles before we reach Alton, and within a mile of the present road, is FROYLE PLACE, the seat of the Rev. Sir Thomas Miller, Bart. It is situated in a finely wooded park of considerable extent, and in the immediate neighbourhood of some celebrated hop grounds. The mansion is about three miles distant from Alton. The ground-plan of the edifice was originally that of a half H, but this has been subsequently enlarged and changed by additional offices. This form, which does not present so ready a communication between the various apartments as might be desirable, admits however a greater circulation of air, and makes a more imposing appearance : it was much used about the period of the reigns of James I. and Charles I., and to that date Froyle Place, with its gable roofs and square mullioned windows may be attributed. The mansion has under-

gone a complete repair within the present century.

ALTON is 16 miles from the Farnborough station; 18 east north-east of Winchester; 10 miles from Farnham, and 47 south-west of London. The high road to Winchester, as well as to Gosport, passes through the town, which is situated near the source of the river Wye.

Alton is well built, with three principal streets, partially paved by subscription and lighted. Some bombazeens and serges were made here, but this manufacture seems to have decayed, nor is the town at present noted for any particular branch of industry. There are hop plantations in the neighbourhood; and two breweries in the town. The living is a vicarage in the gift of the Bishop of Winchester. The church is neat, and there are two or three meeting-houses for the Dissenters. Alton has a national school. The market is on Saturday, and there are two fairs in the year. The population in 1831 was 2742. During the civil wars, the royalist troops, under Lord Hopton, were surprised at Alton by the parliamentarians under William Waller.

Near EAST MEON, two miles south-east of West Meon, through which latter place the road passes, the scenery is very beautiful, and in some respects singular. “ Here is a very fine valley in nearly an elliptical form, sheltered by high hills sloping gradually from it; and not far from the middle of this valley there is a hill nearly in the form of a goblet glass with the foot and stem broken

* ‘ Rural Rides.’

off and turned upside down : and this is clapped down upon the level of the valley, just as you would put such goblet upon a table. The hill is lofty, partly covered with wood, and it gives an air of great singularity to the scene."*

On the west, between Warnford and Exton, is **BRACON HILL**, one of the loftiest hills in the county. From its summit may be obtained an excellent view of the Isle of Wight and of the sea, with an extensive prospect on the east into Sussex, and on the south-west over the New Forest into Dorsetshire.

A few miles nearer Gosport, and midway between this road and the London and Portsmouth road is the small market-town of **HAMBLEDON**, a long straggling place, situated in a valley formed by hills of no great elevation, but of very pretty appearance. The parish of Hambledon is a hundred of itself.

After passing over the western extremity of the Forest of Bere we reach **WICKHAM**, the birth-place, in 1324, of the illustrious William of Wykeham, the architect of Windsor Castle and founder of the colleges at Winchester and Oxford. The ancient church contains several interesting tombs and monuments. From Wickham to Fareham is about 4 miles.

FAREHAM is situated at the head of the north-west branch of Portsmouth harbour, 73 miles from London, at the intersection of the road from London to Gosport and that from Chichester to Southampton : it is 13 miles from the

Southampton station. The parish is extensive, containing 6670 acres : it constitutes the whole of the hundred, and had in 1831 a population of 4402. Fareham was in Leland's time a fishing village : it is now a tolerably thriving town, depending for its prosperity chiefly on its neighbourhood to Portsmouth. Several persons connected with the naval establishments at Portsmouth reside here. Some small vessels are built at Fareham ; and cordage, sacking, and coarse pottery are made. Vessels of 300 tons can get up to the port ; and considerable trade in corn and coal is carried on. The market is on Wednesday, and there is one yearly fair. Petty sessions are held here. The architecture of the church is of various dates and styles ; the chancel is early English. The living is a rectory in the peculiar jurisdiction of the bishop of Winchester, in whose gift it is ; the annual value is 671*l*. There were in 1833 twenty-two day and four boarding-schools, with nearly 700 children. There were also three Sunday-schools, containing above 400 children. There are congregations of Independents and Methodists.

CAMS HALL, the seat of H. P. Delmé, Esq., is situated on the eastern side of a lake or inlet of Portsmouth harbour, that runs up to Fareham, from which town the mansion is about a mile distant. It stands on the site of an older house, pulled down by the late John Delmé, Esq., who also erected this in its room. It is built of brick, which being covered with a composition has the effect of stone ; the principal front,

which faces to the south, commands views over a most interesting tract of country, including the hills of the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth harbour, Spithead, and the British channel, with its numerous vessels passing and re-passing. The interior is constructed upon a very splendid scale with fine billiard-rooms, baths, &c., but does not, we believe, contain any distinguished work of art.

GOSPORT, described in the next chapter, is 4 miles from Fareham.

3. *To Southampton.*

This is a branch of the above-mentioned road between London and Gosport, which it leaves at Meon Stoke, 27 miles from Gosport, and 15 from Southampton. The only place of any importance through which it passes is Bishop's Waltham.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM is 10 miles south-east of the Winchester station, 10 miles east-north-east of the Southampton station, and 62 miles south-west-by-west from London.

Bishop's Waltham has immemorially been the property of the see of Winchester, whence the affix 'Bishop's.' Domesday describes it among the lands of the see in Hampshire, and says that it was held in demesne, and had always belonged to the bishopric. It was then, as formerly, assessed at twenty hides, but there were actually thirty. It was in the time of the Confessor worth 31*l.*, was afterwards worth 10*l.* 10*s.*, but was then worth 30*l.* There were seventy villagers and fifteen yeomen, em-

ploying twenty-six ploughs; there were seven servants; and Radulphus, a priest, held two churches belonging to the manor, with two hides and a half. There were three mills which paid 17*s.* 6*d.* Leland speaks of Bishop's Waltham as "a praty townlet; here the bishop of Winchester hath a right ample and goodly maner-place, motid about, and a praty brooke running hard by it. The maner-place hath been of many bishops' building; most part of the three parts of the lease court was buildid of brick and timbre by Bishop Langten; the residew of the inner part is all of stone." The brook mentioned is the small river Hamble, the source of which is about a mile from the town, and passes through a piece of water which is described as having been a large and beautiful lake, half a mile long and a furlong broad; but it is now deprived of this character by the growth of rushes and the encroachments of the soil. The bishop's castle, mentioned by Leland, was originally built by Bishop Henry de Blois, brother of King Stephen; but much of the grandeur which it ultimately attained is attributed to the architectural taste of William de Wykeham, whose favourite residence it was, and who there terminated his active life at the age of eighty. The great hall in the second or inner court was 65 feet in length, 27 in breadth, and 25 high, and was lighted by five large windows of magnificent proportions. The castle was demolished during the civil wars by the parliamentary army under Waller; and

the ruins, which consist of the remains of the hall and of a square tower, are now mantled with ivy. The park in which it stood has since been converted into farms. The town is chiefly remarkable for the neighbourhood of this castle. In has, however, a trade of some activity in leather, of which it sends large quantities to Guernsey, London, and the neighbouring fairs; there is also some business in malting. Its market is held on Friday; and there are fairs on the second Friday in May, July 30th, and the first Friday after Old Michaelmas-day. The parish contained 438 houses in 1831, when the population amounted to 2181 persons, of whom 1115 were females. The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, accommodates 1100 persons. The living is a rectory, with a net income of 915*l.* per annum, in the diocese of Winchester, the bishop being patron. There is an endowed charity school in the town founded by Bishop Morley. There are also two national schools in the town, containing together eighty boys and as many girls.

Waltham Chace is eastward of the town.

4. *To Winchester.*

This is the fourth important branch of the great road from Farnham into Hampshire. It branches from the London and Gosport road, about a mile south-west of Alton, and passes through Alresford. North of this line of road there are some cross roads through a beautiful country of sweeping downs and deep dells.

Just after passing through Ropley Dean the valley of the Itchin commences. The river rises at Ropley Dean, at the foot of the high lands between Alton and Alresford, and flows into Southampton Water. "The sides of the vale are, until you come down to within six or eight miles of Southampton, hills or rising grounds of chalk covered more or less thickly with loam. Where the hills rise up very steeply from the valley the fertility of the corn lands is not so great; but for a considerable part of the way the corn lands are excellent, and the farm-houses to which those lands belong, are for the far greater part under covert of the hills on the edge of the valley." *

ALRESFORD, a neat little market-town, is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles east-by-north of the Winchester station, and is situated on the high road from London to Winchester, through Alton and Farnham, the distance from London being 57 miles. Three miles east of Alresford there is a branch from this road to Petersfield into Sussex, which crosses the London and Gosport and the London and Portsmouth roads, the former about 7 miles east of Alresford, and the latter at Petersfield. The town is situated on the river Itchin, and has a very pretty appearance from the hills coming from Abbotstone. It was formerly a place of far greater importance than at present, and sent a representative to parliament. It probably owed its prosperity to the circumstance of the river

having been rendered navigable by a head or pond of 200 acres, formed by Godfrey de Lacy, Bishop of Winchester, early in the thirteenth century. At present the navigation does not extend above Winchester, and is there confined to a few barges. The town has been twice destroyed by fire, once in 1690, and again in 1710. It has a manufactory of linseys; the population in 1831 was 1437, or if we include that of Old Alresford, a village in the immediate neighbourhood, and which some consider as another part of the same parish, it may be taken at nearly 1900. Alresford has a national school. The market, which is held on Thursday, is chiefly for corn.

During the summer of 1833 a large quantity of English silver coins, all of the reign of William the Conqueror, were found in a leaden box in a field a short distance from this town. About 7000 of these coins are now in the British Museum.

After passing Alresford, at a distance of about 3 miles from the road, is AVINGTON PARK, a seat of the duke of Buckingham. The manor, originally a royal demesne, was given by King Edgar, in 961, to the monastery of St. Swithin at Winchester. At the dissolution it became the property of the Clerks, of Micheldever, in this county; but in the time of Queen Elizabeth we find it passed to the family of Brugges or Brydges. From the intermarriage of Sir Thomas Brugge with Alice, granddaughter of the Sir John Chendos who so highly distinguished himself in the

French wars under Edward III., springs the present family. During the reign of Charles II. Avington was possessed in marriage by Anne Maria Brudenell, better known as the infamous Countess of Shrewsbury, whose former husband, from whom she derived that title, died from a wound received in a duel with George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, her paramour. It is said that she was present on the occasion, disguised as a page, and held the duke's horse. Charles II. visited Avington frequently while she was its owner; and a room in the old house used to be shown as Nell Gwynn's dressing-room. The present mansion, built principally of brick, is situated in a well planted and secluded valley, nearly surrounded with high downs. Several of the apartments are fitted up with great elegance, and enriched with valuable works of art by Rembrandt, Cuyp, Carlo Dolce, Claude Lorraine, N. Poussin, Salvator Rosa, Ruysdael, Domenichino, Reubens, Correggio, Guido, Albert Durer, Holbein, Wilson, &c. In front of the house extends a fine sheet of water, formed from a transparent stream that flows through the valley. The park is about 3 miles in circumference.

Before reaching Winchester the road passes over Magdalen Hill, often called Morning Hill. This is the highest point of a ridge of hills, stretching southward, and descending in elevation towards Bishop's Waltham. The view from the summit embraces a tract of country about 70 miles in diameter,

and includes the Isle of Wight in one direction, and the high lands of Berkshire in another; but the general aspect of barrenness in the immediate vicinity of this eminence renders the prospect	less pleasing than it would otherwise be. The series of hills to the south, as far as Upham, are amongst the most barren of the downs of England.
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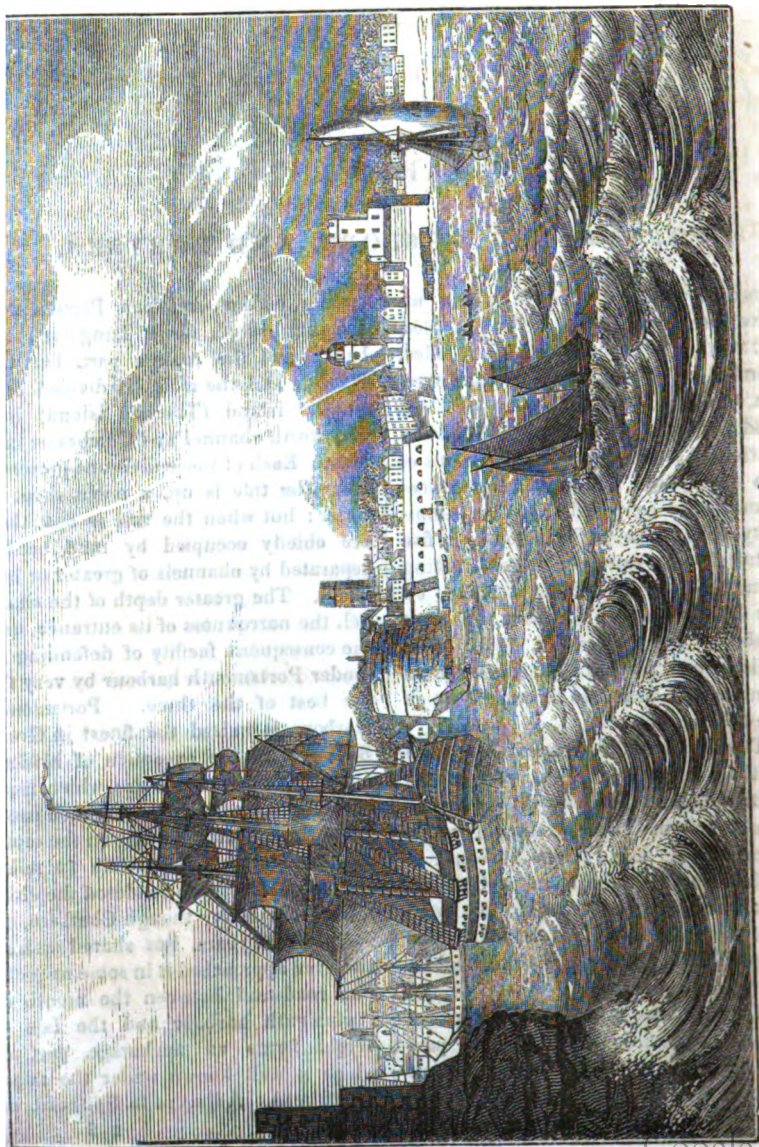
CHAPTER IV.

PORTSMOUTH, GOSPORT, AND PORTSEA.

PORTSMOUTH, the road to which we have described in the preceding chapter, is 73 miles from the General Post-office, London, by the mail road through Kingston, Guildford, Godalming, and Petersfield: it is 18 miles from the railway station at Southampton. By means of the semaphore telegraph communications can be conveyed from the Admiralty, in London, to Portsmouth, in five minutes. The railway now constructing from Gosport to Bishop's Stoke, on the South Western Railway, will most probably be opened in 1841, until which time much of the traffic from London will doubtless be carried on in the old channel.

The harbour of Portsmouth is formed by the western end of an inlet of the British Channel, which with its various creeks extends nearly sixteen miles from west to east; from Fareham to Fishbourn, a village close to Chichester; and about four miles, on the average, from the open sea inland. Two large alluvial islands, Portsea island on the west, and Hayling island on the east, divide this inlet into three parts. The westernmost and smallest part forms Portsmouth harbour, between Portsea island and the main; the

middle portion, between Portsea and Hayling island, forms Langston harbour; and the eastern part, between Hayling and the main, is divided by a smaller island (Thorney island) into Emsworth channel and Chichester harbour. Each of these divisions presents, when the tide is up, a noble sheet of water; but when the tide is out, they are chiefly occupied by mud banks, separated by channels of greater or less width. The greater depth of the channel, the narrowness of its entrance, and the consequent facility of defending it, render Portsmouth harbour by very far the best of the three. Portsmouth Harbour is indeed the finest in Great Britain, with the exception of Milford Haven, in Pembrokeshire; which, from its position, has not been so much used. Portsmouth Harbour, lying on the south coast of England, and within 70 miles of London, has been rendered the chief seat of our navy, though Chatham, in more recent years, has shared with it, and even approached it in some respects. The roadstead between the mouth of Portsmouth harbour and the Isle of Wight forms an anchorage, part of which is well known under the name of Spithead. Adjacent to Spithead, on

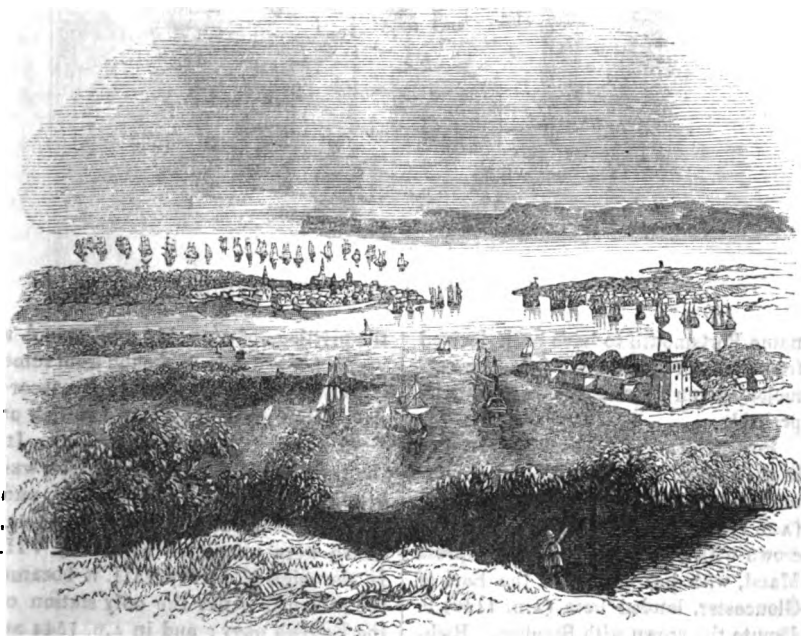


[Portsmouth Harbour.]

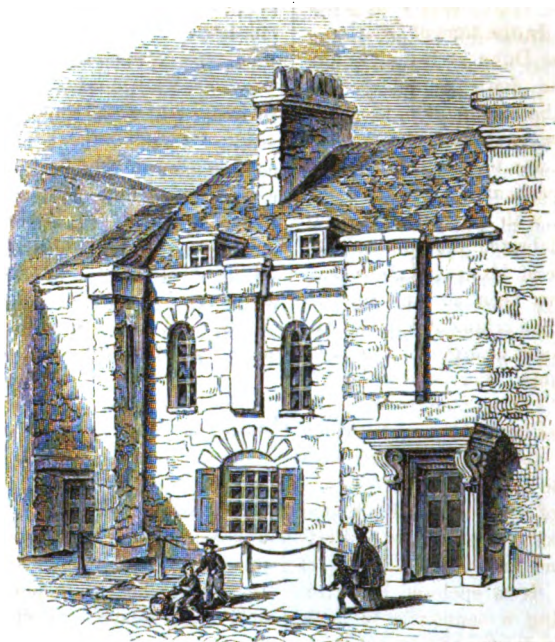
the coast of the Isle of Wight, near the eastern extremity of the island, is the bay of St. Helens, a place of rendezvous for the navy; and between Cowes and the Isle of Wight is the Motherbank, an anchorage for smaller vessels.

The excellence of the port attracted the notice of the Romans, who established a station at Porchester, on its northern shore. This was probably the *Portus Adurni*, or perhaps the "*Portus Magnus*" of the *Notitia*; and the element of the Roman name *Port-us* has been transmitted directly or mediately

to the modern Port-chester, Portsea (*Ports'-ey*, "the island of the port,") Ports-mouth, Ports-down, and Gos-port. The decline of Port-chester, where there are still some Roman remains, is ascribed to the retiring of the sea, in consequence of which the inhabitants removed and built Portsmouth, which is first noticed in the *Saxon Chronicle* on occasion of the landing (A.D. 501) of a body of Saxon allies of Cerdic, founder of the West Saxon kingdom. The leader of this body is said to have been called *Porta*, and some have supposed the



[Portsmouth and Portsea, Gosport, and Porchester Castle in the Seventeenth Century]



[House in which the Duke of Buckingham was assassinated.]

name Portsmouth to have been derived from this circumstance; but the etymology given above appears much more probable.

Portsmouth was a place of importance in the time of Henry I. Robert of Normandy landed here with a strong force (A.D. 1101) when he came to dispute the crown with Henry I.; and the Empress Maud, with her supporter the Earl of Gloucester, landed here (A.D. 1140) to dispute the crown with Stephen. Richard I. granted to the town a charter, with

the privilege of a weekly market and a yearly fair of fifteen days; and from some ancient records it has lately been ascertained that there was a naval station at Portsmouth in the reign of John. In the time of Richard II. Portsmouth was burnt by the French. Edward IV. and Richard III. secured it by fortifications, which were completed by Henry VII. In the reign of Henry VIII. it became the principal if not the only station of the English navy; and in A.D. 1544 an indecisive engagement between the

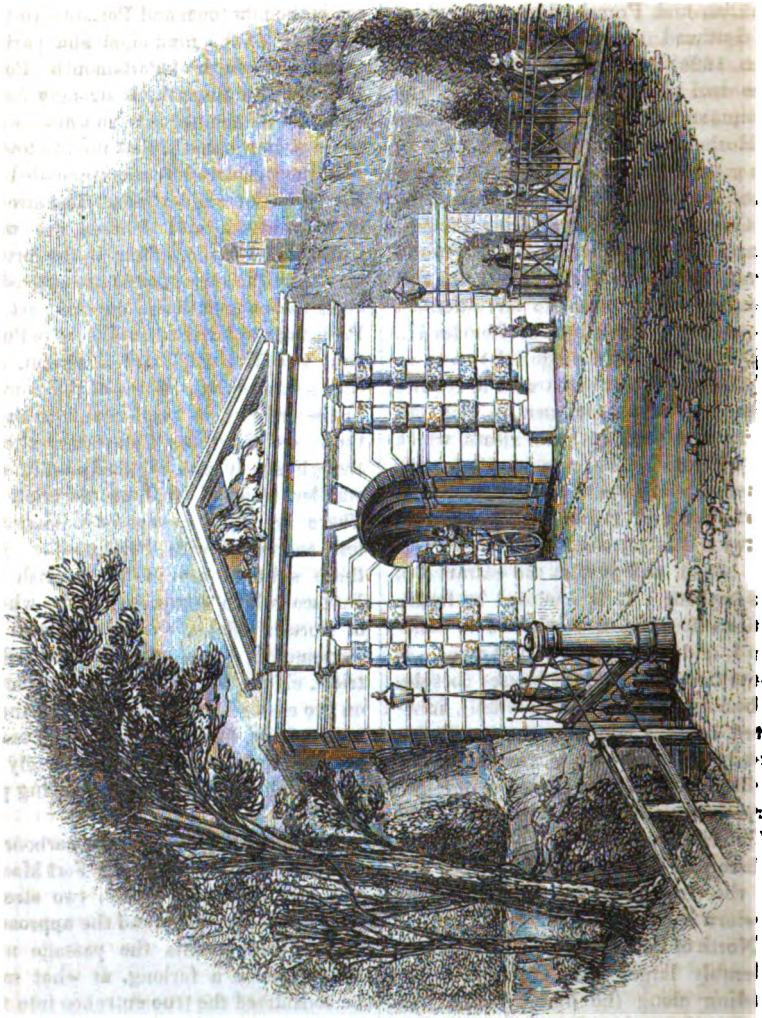
English and French fleets took place off Spithead. In the time of Charles I. (A.D. 1628) the Duke of Buckingham, who had come down to hasten the equipment of the armament for the relief of Rochelle, was assassinated here. In the great civil war the town was garrisoned for the parliament. The marriage of Charles II. with Catherine of Braganza was celebrated here (A.D. 1662). Since the time of Henry VIII. the fortifications have been so far extended (especially in the reigns of Charles II., William III., and George III.) as to be now impregnable. It is said to require a garrison of 13,500 men to man the works and the forts: the moats, which are wide and deep, can be filled with water from the sea.

The town of Portsmouth is situated at the south-western extremity of Portsea island, and just at the entrance of the harbour. It is enclosed by fortifications forming a semicircle to landward, and has an area of 110 acres. It contained, in 1831, 1195 houses (besides 6 building and 40 uninhabited), inhabited by 1627 families; the population was 8083. The streets are paved and lighted, but, with the exception of High-street, are narrow, and consist of houses of inferior appearance. There are some substantial houses in High-street and on the Grand Parade, which is at the western end of High-street.

North of Portsmouth is PORTSEA, considerably larger than Portsmouth, extending along the harbour, and containing the dockyard and the principal establishments connected with it. Port-

sea is the new town and Portsmouth the old town of the municipal and parliamentary borough of Portsmouth. Portsea, like Portsmouth, is strongly fortified, and its defences are so united with those of Portsmouth, that the two towns may be considered as comprehended in the circuit of one fortress. The streets of Portsmouth and Portsea are well lighted and paved. Outside the fortifications of these two towns are extensive suburbs, as Southsea, on the east of Portsmouth; Landport, adjacent to Portsea; and Mile End and Kingston, rather more remote. Some of the houses in the suburbs are handsome, especially those on Southsea Common: others, though neatly and regularly built, are smaller and of inferior description. There are some groups of habitations less connected with Portsmouth. All these suburbs are in the parish of Portsea, which comprehends the whole of Portsea island, except the town of Portsmouth, some extra-parochial districts, chiefly belonging to government, on the east side, on the shore of Langston harbour, formerly occupied by some salterns, and the northern extremity of the island, which is in Wimmering parish.

The mouth of Portsmouth harbour is about 2 miles wide between Fort Monkton and Southsea Castle, two strong forts erected to command the approach. Within these points the passage narrows to about a furlong, at what may be considered the true entrance into the harbour: within this entrance the harbour widens to half a mile between the



[Lion Gate, Portsmouth.]

dock-yard at Portsea and the town of Gosport on the opposite side: farther in it expands to the width of three miles, and contains the three small low islands, Pewit Island, Horsea Island, and Whale Island. There is sufficient depth of water for a first-rate ship to enter the harbour at almost any time of the tide. About a mile and a half from the entrance the main channel branches into three arms, leading respectively to Fareham, Porchester, and Portsbridge, and the northern end of Portsea Island.

Portsmouth Dock-yard is the largest in the kingdom, covering nearly 120 acres; it has a wharf-wall along the harbour of nearly three quarters of a mile; and is enclosed on the land side by a wall 14 feet high, which completely separates it from the town. The entrance to the Dock-yard from the town is by a gateway: strangers are admitted without any formal introduction. The great basin has its entrance in the centre of the wharf-wall: it is two acres and a half in area, 380 feet in length, and 260 feet in breadth. Four dry-docks open into this basin, and on each side is another dry-dock, all capable of receiving first-rate ships. Besides these, there is a double dock for frigates. There are also six building-slips; two of which are capable of receiving the largest vessels. The Dock-yard includes a rope-house, (three stories high, 54 feet broad, and 1094 feet long,) anchor wharfs, anchor forges, copper-sheathing foundry, block, mast, and store-houses, building-slips, docks for repairing; in a word, all that is re-

quisite for the construction, equipment, armament, and repair of vessels. There are also residences for the port admiral, the admiral superintendent, and the officers of the yard; a chapel, school for naval architecture, and other buildings. The block machinery, invented by Mr. M. J. Brunel, is an admirable manifestation of mechanical skill: it is impelled by steam. There are forty-four machines, which are arranged in three sets for blocks of different sizes. They take the rough timber, cut it up, shape, and bore it, and carry the process through to the completion of the block. The machinery is capable of producing 1400 blocks daily, and supplies the whole of the British navy. The number of men employed in the dock-yard, in time of war, has amounted to 4000, and even 5000. They consist of block-makers, braziers and tinmen, caulkers, carpenters, locksmiths, painters and glaziers, plumbers, sail-makers, sawyers, shipwrights, smiths, rope-makers, wheelwrights, workmen at wood-mills, at metal, &c.; and labourers employed in various departments. Convicts are employed at Portsmouth, as at other dock-yards belonging to the naval service. The dock-yard has three times been seriously injured by fire: in 1760 from the effect of lightning; in 1770 from an unascertained cause; and in 1776 from the attempt of an incendiary, John Aitkin, otherwise "Jack the Painter," who was executed for the crime at Winchester, in 1777. Adjacent to the dock-yard is the spacious and well-furnished gun-wharf and its

connected buildings. It is the grand dépôt for cannon, shot, and every description of ordnance stores.

The parish church of St. Thomas, Portsmouth, is a spacious building, including some ancient portions, but mingled with additions of various later periods. The tower is 120 feet high, and forms a good mark for seamen; but the architecture is heavy and tasteless. It is surmounted by a cupola: the whole is crowned by the model of a ship, which serves as a vane. The church contains a fine monument to Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, and the inscription records the manner of his death by Felton. The garrison chapel, on the Grand Parade, is an ancient structure, once belonging to the hospital of "*Domus Dei*" (*House of God*), repaired and fitted up in modern times for the officers and soldiers of the garrison. The parish church of St. Mary, Portsea, is in the suburb of Kingston; it is an ancient building, surrounded by one of the largest burial grounds in the kingdom. The chapels of St. George and St. John, in Portsea, are commodious edifices, of little architectural beauty, erected in the latter half of the last century. The new church of St. Paul, Southsea, capable of accommodating 1900 persons, is a quadrangular building, in the perpendicular style of Gothic architecture, with four low turrets at the angles: the church of All Saints, Mile End, is of similar architecture, with a handsome western front, crowned with a bell-turret; it will accommodate more than 1700 persons. A

new Gothic church, with a tower, has been built at Portsmouth, capable of holding above 1200 persons, and another has been built, or is in course of erection in Portsea; making altogether nine places of worship of the Establishment. Those of the protestant dissenters are yet more numerous; and there are a Roman Catholic chapel and a Jews' synagogue.

Among the other public buildings are the Town Hall, with a covered marketplace underneath, in High-street; the governor's house on the Grand Parade, originally part of the hospital of *Domus Dei*, but so much altered as to retain little of its monastic appearance; the residence of the lieutenant-governor; the theatre; a national school-house, with concert, assembly, and card rooms above; and the building of the Philosophical Society: all these are in Portsmouth. The ramparts are planted with trees, and form an agreeable promenade: the saluting battery at the end of the parade commands a fine view of the anchorage of Spithead and the Isle of Wight. About two miles from the town, on the London road, extending from the road to the harbour, is an extensive cemetery, laid out and planted with trees, and furnished with a chapel for the burial-service, and an office for the officiating minister.

The population of Portsmouth has been given: that of Portsea in 1831 was 42,306; of Portsmouth and Portsea together, 50,389 (*Pop. Returns*). Of the inhabitants of Portsea 14,874 were in the town, 23,325 in the su-

burbs (*Rep. of Municip. Corpor. Commissioners*). The area of Portsea parish is given in the same return at 4980 acres: the number of inhabited houses at 8215, besides 57 building and 327 uninhabited; and the number of families at 9767. The trade of the place, which is considerable at all times, but especially in time of war, depends much upon the expenditure connected with or caused by the naval station and dock-yard; and is of a very miscellaneous character.

Portsmouth felt severely the decline of business on the termination of the war in 1815. The injury has not been a permanent one: "If," say the Boundary Commissioners, in their Report on Portsmouth, "the prosperity of the place be compared with its prosperity in time of war, it may be considered as diminished; but if it be compared with periods of peace, it cannot be considered on the decline." The Municipal Commissioners who inspected the place in 1834 (three years afterwards) are more decided in their expression of opinion. They say, "The prosperity of the town is considered to have depended mainly upon the excitement produced by the war, and to have declined much since the termination of it. We are of opinion that this notion is at any rate exaggerated. The population has been steadily upon the increase, and although one very important excitement to trade has subsided others appear to have been created. More horses and carriages are kept than formerly. It is, however, said, that the new houses which are

built are on a smaller scale than the old ones, and that profits are much reduced. There are few persons of large fortune; the property is considered to be more equally distributed here than elsewhere."

The "port" extends from the town of Emsworth, on Emsworth channel on the east, to the entrance of Southampton Water on the west; and includes Portsmouth and Langston harbours, Emsworth channel and the roadsteads of Spithead and the bay of St. Helens, between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. There is considerable coasting and foreign trade carried on. The Portsmouth and Arun canal was originally carried nearly across Portsea island, (entering it from Langston harbour, across which the canal boats were towed by steam) to its terminus in a capacious basin at Landport. But the creek at Portsbridge having been rendered navigable since the last peace, barges have thus direct access to the docks and wharfs of the harbour and towns surrounding it; and the cut being now useless, the basin has been filled up and built upon. There is a considerable import of coal, (it has increased 30 per cent. in the ten years ending 1834) and also of cattle from the Isle of Wight, and from the West of England; 50,000 sheep have been brought in in a single year. Corn and provisions are brought in from Ireland, eggs from France, timber from the Baltic, and wine is imported direct from the continent. The gross amount of Customs duty collected in 1839 was 58,296*l*. Seve-

ral steam-vessels visit the port, some of which go and return several times in the day; and there are others which touch here in their passage. Communication is thus kept up with the Isle of Wight, Southampton, Plymouth, and Havre. A considerable part of the land round the town is laid out in market gardens, from which the town is supplied with excellent vegetables. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday are market-days. There is a yearly fair, of fifteen days, from the 10th July, but after 1840 its duration will be limited to a shorter period; and a holiday fair held on Portsdown hill, at the close of Portsmouth fair, is much frequented.

The corporation of Portsmouth is said to have been established by Henry I.; but the earliest known charter is of Richard I. The borough limits formerly included the parish and town of Portsmouth; the town of Portsea and a considerable part of the parish of Portsea, extending along the harbour, the whole of which was in the jurisdiction of the corporation. By the Boundary Act, the limits were extended for parliamentary purposes, so as to include the whole parish of Portsea; and by the Municipal Reform Act the parliamentary limits, thus extended, were adopted for municipal purposes. The enlarged borough is divided into six wards: the number of aldermen was fixed by the Municipal Reform Act at fourteen; the number of councillors at forty-two. Quarter sessions for the borough are held. There is a court of record having jurisdiction in all

personal actions; and petty sessions are held three times in the week. The prison is not well situated, nor is it sufficient for the proper classification of the prisoners. There is neither chapel nor chaplain. The place is kept clean, but the discipline is considered too lax. (*Inspectors of Prisons: Third Report.*) The average number of prisoners is fifty. Portsmouth first returned members to parliament 23 Edward I.: the number of voters before the Reform Act was very small, but is now considerable. The number on the register in 1836 was 1439.

The living of Portsmouth is a vicarage of the clear yearly value of 555*l.*, with a glebe-house. The living of Portsea is also a vicarage, of the clear yearly value of 696*l.*, with a glebe-house. The perpetual curacies of the chapels are in clear yearly value as follows:—St. George 45*l.* with a glebe-house; St. John 141*l.* with a glebe-house; St. Paul's, Southsea, 310*l.*; and All Saints, Mile End, 160*l.* The vicar of Portsea is patron of these, except St. John's, to which the proprietors of pews present.

There were in 1833, in the parishes of Portsmouth and Portsea, an infant school with 40 children, held in Portsea workhouse; a grammar school for 20 free scholars; a large school called "the Beneficial Society School," with from 260 to 360 boys; the "Portsea Institution," for 110 girls; two Lancasterian schools, with 250 boys and 112 girls; two national schools, with 409 boys and 160 girls; the "Seamen's

School," with 210 boys and 80 girls; a "National School of Industry," with 40 boys and 40 girls; two workhouse schools, with 70 boys and 60 girls; and four other schools, wholly or partly supported by subscription, with 271 children of both sexes. There was a proprietary school with 100 boys; and there were about 270 day or boarding and day schools, most of them of a very humble description. There were returns of the number of scholars from 217 of these schools, which contained 1243 boys, 472 girls, and 2657 children of sex not distinguished. There were at the same time twenty-six Sunday schools, with 4629 scholars of both sexes. Some of the charity and most of the Sunday schools have lending libraries attached. There are a Portsmouth and Portsea Literary and Philosophical Society, with a tolerably extensive museum; an institution called the "Hampshire Library Society," with a valuable collection of books, and a Mechanics' Institution.

Besides the fortifications of the two towns of Portsmouth and Portsea, the island of Portsea has strong defences. On the southern extremity is Southsea Castle, built by Henry VIII., mounted with heavy cannon, and commanding the approach to the harbour from the eastward; and on the eastern point, at the entrance to Langston harbour, which it commands, is Fort Cumberland, a large fort erected in 1746, and mounted with 100 heavy guns. The entrance to the island from the north is defended by lines carried along the bank of the

channel which separates the island from the main land, and by other works at Hilsea, four miles from Portsmouth. Fort Monkton, which commands the approach to the harbour from the west, corresponding in situation to Southsea Castle on the east, and the fortifications of the town of Gosport, on the shore of the harbour opposite Portsmouth, are also to be considered as part of the system of defences which protect Portsmouth harbour.

GOSPORT is situated within the parish of Alverstoke, and on the western side of Portsmouth harbour, near its entrance, 73 miles south-by-west from London. A floating-bridge was established early in 1840, which plies across the harbour between Portsmouth and Gosport every half-hour. A second bridge is intended to be established, and when both are in operation they will start from either shore every quarter of an hour. The distance is about a mile, and the passage is made under ten minutes. The bridge is worked by two steam-engines, and several hundred persons may be conveyed at one trip, besides coaches and other vehicles. In the reign of Henry VIII. Gosport is described by Leland as a mere village, inhabited by fishermen. It is now a market-town of importance, and in time of war is a place of great activity. Gosport is subject to the jurisdiction of the county magistrates. About the beginning of the present century it was strengthened by a line of bastions which extend from Weovil to Alverstoke. The Royal Clarence Yard, within the lines,

contains the brewery, victualling department, &c., from which the Royal Navy are supplied. The coasting trade is considerable. There are several distilleries, and an extensive iron foundry, where chain cables and anchors are made. The market-days are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Gosport is a chapelry to the neighbouring village of Alverstoke, and is in the diocese of Winchester, the living being a curacy worth 100*l.* per annum, in the gift of the rector of Alverstoke. The rectory of Alverstoke is in the patronage of the bishop of Winchester, and has an average net income of 1287*l.* The chapel is spacious and neat, and stands to the south of the town, in the centre of a cemetery well stocked with shrubs. Besides an almshouse there are several charity schools supported by voluntary donations. Near the extremity of the point of land which forms the west side of Portsmouth harbour is situated the

Royal Hospital of Haslar, founded at the suggestion of the earl of Sandwich, and erected between the years 1750 and 1762. The ordinary expenses of this establishment, which is intended exclusively for the reception of sick and wounded seamen, is about 5000*l.* per annum, and it contains accommodations for more than 2000 patients. The portico of the centre building is surmounted by the royal arms, and by two figures representing commerce and navigation. The population of Gosport with Alverstoke was 12,637 in 1831, and had much increased in consequence of the removal of the victualling establishment from Portsmouth. Gosport is a polling-place for the southern division of the county.

Bingham Town is a populous suburb, containing many genteel residences; and Anglesea, about two miles from Gosport, on Stoke's Bay, is a new and fashionable watering-place.

CHAPTER V.

THE WINCHFIELD STATION.

THE Winchfield station is 38 miles from London and about a mile south of the great western road to Exeter, Devonport, and Falmouth: it is about 245 feet higher than the level of the Vauxhall terminus. From its entrance into the county to Winchfield there is no place on this road which requires particular notice, with the exception of **ELVETHAM HOUSE**, the seat of Lord Calthorpe, which is about a mile south of Hartford Bridge, and was formerly a place of great extent and magnificence. It is chiefly now remembered for the entertainment given to Queen Elizabeth by the Earl of Hartford, in 1591. An account of the ceremonies, pageants, &c., which took place on this occasion was published at the time; and which, reprinted in Warner's Collections for Hampshire, occupies no less than twenty goodly quarto pages of that publication. A somewhat briefer notice will doubtless suffice here. Elvetham, it appears, not being one of the earl's chief seats, was not thought large enough for the reception of her majesty; so 500 artificers were set at work to enlarge it, and to raise various additional buildings on a hill side within the park, for the enter-

tainment of the nobles, gentlemen, &c. of the suite. Among these was a room of state, and a withdrawing room for the queen, the floor of which was covered with sweet herbs and green rushes, the walls with arras, and the roof with "work of ivy leaves," whilst the exterior was decorated with boughs, and clusters of ripe hazel nuts. Close by were erected "a spicerie, larderie, chaundrie, wine-cellar, ewery, and panterie, all which were tyled." Another large hall was erected for the entertainment of knights, ladies, gentlemen of chief account, and other separate places of accommodation respectively for "her majesty's footmen and their friends," for "her majesty's guard," for "other officers of her majesty's household;" and, lastly, for the entertainment of "all comers, suiters, and the like." A large and "goodly pond" was erected, and mimic forts and islands raised in its centre, &c. &c. The first day was devoted to the proper reception of Elizabeth. "About three of the clocke his honour seeing all his retinue well mounted and ready to attend his pleasure, he drew them secretly into a chief thicket of the park; where, in few

words, but well couched to the purpose, he put them in mind what quietness, and what diligence, or other dutie they were to use at that present, that their service might first work her majesty's content and thereby his honour, and lastlie their own credit, with increase of his love and favour towards them." A handsome procession was formed by the earl and his train, amounting to the number of 300 persons, most of them wearing chains of gold about their necks, and in their hats yellow and black feathers, who met her majesty about two miles from Elvetham. "Half-way between the park-gate and the house, a poet saluted her with a Latine oration, in heoricall verse; I mean *veridicus vates*—a soothsaying poet, nothing inferior for truth, and little for the delivery of his mind to an ordinarie orator. This poet was clad in greene to signify the joy of his thoughts at her entrance; a laurel garland on his head to express that Apollo was patrone of his studies; an olive-branch in his hand to declare what continual peace and plentie he did both wish and aboade to her majestie; and, lastly, booted, to betoken that he was *vates cothurnatus*, and not a loose, or lowe creeping prophet, as poets are interpreted, by some idle or envious ignorante."

Of the quality of this oration the following specimen will doubtless convey a sufficient idea :

"While, at the fountaine of the sacred hill,
Under Apollo's lute I sweetly slept
'Mongst prophets full possess'd with holy fury
And with true vertue void of all disdaine;

The Muses sung, and waked me with these words :

'Seest thou that English nymph, in face
and shape

Resembling some great goddess, whose
beams

Doe sprinkle Heaven with unacquainted
light,

While she doth visit Semer's fraudless house,
As Jupiter did honour with his presence

The poor thatch cottage where Philemon
dwelt?"

"While the poet was pronouncing this oration, six virgins were behind him, busily removing blockes out of her majesties' way; which blockes were supposed to bee layde there by the person of Envie, whose condition is to envie at every good, but especially to malice the proceedings of vertue, and the glory of true majesty." Singing a song, and strewing flowers in the path, these virgins preceded her majesty into the house. The second day was devoted to sports and pageants on the water, during which Nereus, the "prophet of the sea," at the head of five Tritons blowing their trumpets, and followed by Neptune and Ocean leading between them a pinnace furnished at all points as for sea, in which were three virgins who "played Scottish gigs," delivered another complimentary address. After this the sea-nymphs sang a song, of which the following is the first verse :

"How haps that now when prime is don
Another spring time is begun?
Our hemisphere is over runne
With beauty of a second sunne
Echo—a second sunne," &c.

"On the Wednesday morning about nine of the clock, as her majesty opened a casement of her gallerie window there were three excellent musicians, who being disguised in auncient country attire, did greet her with a pleasant song of Corydon and Phyllida, made in three parts of purpose."

THE FLOWMAN'S SONG.

"In the merrie moneth of May,
In a morne by breake of day,
Forth I walked by the wood side,
Where as May was in his pride,
There I spied all alone
Phyllida and Corydon.
Much adoe there was. God wot!
He would love, and she would not.
She said never man was true,
He said none was false to you.
He said he had loved her long;
She said, love should have no wrong.
Corydon would kisse her then,
She said maidens must kisse no men,
Till they did for good and all.
Then she made the shepherd call
All the heavens to witness truth,
Never lov'd a truer youth.
Then with many a prettie oath,
Yea and nay, and faith and troth,
Such as silly shepheards use,
When they will not love abuse,
Love which had been long deluded,
Was with kisses sweet concluded;
And Phyllida with garlands gay,
Was made the lady of the May."

Pageants of different kinds, introducing every possible kind of flattery of the illustrious spectator, fireworks, discharges of artillery, music, dancing,

hawking, and banqueting, filled up the remainder of the period that Elizabeth stayed with her entertainer, who received at her departure her warm commendation and thanks for his magnificent hospitality.

The mansion was repaired about the beginning of the present century, and made a handsome residence. The park and grounds, occupying an area of about two miles, were greatly improved by Mr. Emes, the well-known landscape gardener, who had a lease of them for twenty-one years.

About two miles west of the Winchfield station is a road from Reading through Odiham to Alton, where it joins the roads from London to Gosport and London to Winchester: these roads are described in Chapter III. Pursuing that part of the first-mentioned road, which is south of the great western highway, we soon reach

ODIHAM, three miles south of the Winchfield station, and about 40 miles from London. The parish is large, comprehending 7550 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 2647, about half agricultural. The market is on Friday, and there are two yearly fairs. Odiham was formerly a free borough, belonging to the bishop of Winchester: it had a royal residence and park; the remains of the residence have been converted into a farm-house, still called Palace Gate, or Place Gate. There is an old almshouse near the church, which latter is a large, ancient brick building. The living is a vicarage, with the parochial chapelry of Grewell annexed,

in the diocese and archdeaconry of Winchester, of the yearly value of 537*l.*, with a glebe-house. There is an Independent congregation at Odiham. There were in the parish in 1833 ten day or boarding and day-schools, with about 250 children: one of these schools, with forty-one children, was partially supported by endowment: there was also one Sunday-school with 187 children. Odiham was the birth-place of Lilly the grammarian.

Near Odiham are the remains of an old castle, which, in the civil wars at the close of King John's reign, was bravely but unsuccessfully defended by a garrison of thirteen against the Dauphin, Louis of France. In this castle David Bruce, king of Scotland, was confined for eleven years after his capture at Neville's Cross.

There is a road from Odiham to Farnham and Guildford, the former town being about eight miles south-east of Odiham. On this road, about two miles from Odiham, is DOGMERSFIELD PARK, the seat of Lady Mildmay. It is situated near to the site of an ancient palace of the archbishop of Canterbury, which was standing here as early as the 12th century, and to which the extensive foundations that have been discovered in the neighbourhood are supposed to belong. The house is very extensive, has two fronts commanding distant views to the south and to the east, and includes a great number of spacious and elegant apartments. There are here some excellent pictures of the Italian, Venetian, and Flemish schools, and a

few by our own countrymen. Among the great names they include are Claude Lorraine, Titian, Holbein, Vandyck, Rembrandt, Rubens, N. Poussin, Teniers, Jansen, Sir P. Lely, Hoppner, &c. The park, comprising about 700 acres, is finely wooded, and presents an agreeable diversity of surface. The shrubberies and pleasure-grounds were laid out by Emes. Near the house is a lake of water of about forty-four acres in extent; and immediately adjoining the park is a large common covered with oaks and holly trees, and presenting in some parts a striking similarity to the New Forest. The late Sir Henry Paulet, who took the name of Mildmay, was paternally descended from the Ports, lords of Basing, and maternally from Wm. de St. John, a Norman chieftain who came over with the Conqueror.

Returning to the road from Odiham to Alton, we pass through the village of South Warnborough, where there is a park and mansion.

We now return to that part of the western road from which we diverged southward, and pursuing the northern branch of the road for about 2½ miles, we find on the right, at the distance of 2 miles from the road,

BRAMSHILL, an ancient mansion, occupying an eminence, which gives it a very commanding appearance. Large as the house is at present, it forms but the central part of the building originally designed. It was built for Henry Frederick, Prince of Wales, the eldest son of King James I.; and his coronet still surmounts the pediment in the middle of

the building. But it appears never to have been inhabited by the prince.

The style is that which characterised the national taste at the time when Italian improvements were newly introduced into our old domestic architecture. Although the existing edifice forms but the central portion of the building originally designed, yet the centre itself has wings, one on each side of the entrance. The wings or projecting extremities are rather plain, and are constructed of brick, excepting that the numerous windows have stone dressings. The central portion is built wholly of stone, and is very profusely decorated. The portal leads to a vestibule or corridor of three divisions, enriched with an open carved parapet. The very elaborate ornaments which decorate the exterior of part of the building are a mixture of Grecian and Gothic; and the whole centre is carried up in rich compartments with pilasters from story to story, and surmounted by a pediment. From the pediment is continued a balustrade perforated in quaterfoils.

The porch presents a good example of the curious admixture of styles in the architecture of the reign of James I. The terrace is formed by a recess extending along the south side of the mansion, with arcades under the projecting wings at each end, and is a beautiful feature of the edifice, giving it a stately air of grandeur. There are two most interesting views of Bramshill in Mr. Nash's "Mansions of England in the Olden Time," in which figures are introduced in the costume of Charles I.'s time.

In returning to the road and continuing our course for about 2 miles further, we approach Strathfieldsay on the west of the road, from which the park is about a mile distant.

STRATHFIELDSAY, the seat of the Duke of Wellington, is situated about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of the Winchfield Station, and about the same distance north-east of the station at Basingstoke: it is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Silchester. The parish of Strathfieldsay is partly in the county of Berkshire. A view of his grace's seat is given in the accompanying cut. The park is not of very great extent, the average breadth being about a mile, and the length about a mile and a half; but it is rendered pleasant, especially on the eastern side, by a diversity of hill and dale, and some fine trees; and it is also enlivened by the waters of the river Loddon, which, winding through the grounds, are expanded into various sheets of ornamental water, near which the mansion is situated. The term Strath, or Strat, as it is usually pronounced, seems to have been an old term signifying a "stretch" of level ground with elevations running along the sides. In this sense it is frequently used in Scotland, and some instances of its employment with this meaning may be found in Wales. The addition of "Say" appears to have been derived from a family of that name, who originally possessed the domain, and from which it passed in marriage to that of the Dabridgecourts, who held it from the time of Richard II. to the year 1636. About that time



[Strathkilday, the Seat of the Duke of Wellington.]

it was purchased by Sir W. Pitt, an ancestor of the Earl of Chatham, to whom it descended, and who, as well as his equally celebrated son, often resided here.

The Duke of Wellington took his seat in the House of Peers on the 28th of June, 1814. He had but just arrived from Spain, the scene of his splendid career of victories. After the ceremony of introduction, all his patents of nobility were read; and the Lord Chancellor, in delivering to his Grace the unanimous thanks of the House, took occasion to remark, in the course of his speech, that (a circumstance unprecedented in our history) the first day on which the Duke had appeared among the Peers of England, he had produced titles in regular gradation to the whole of the honours of the peerage in the power of the crown to bestow.

After the battle of Waterloo, the legislature was called upon to "take such measures as should afford a further proof of the opinion entertained by parliament of the Duke of Wellington's transcendent services, and of the gratitude and munificence of the British nation." But as there were no honours which the Duke had not already received, parliament could therefore only repeat their thanks, and increase their former munificent grant for the purchase of an estate, by the addition of a sum by which a palace might be erected on a scale of magnificence worthy the conqueror for whom it was designed. These several grants had now amounted to a considerable sum,

and the trustees appointed to carry the intention of parliament into effect by the application of the funds to the purchase of an estate and the erection of a mansion suitable to the dignity of the Duke's rank, at length purchased the manor of Strathfieldsay.

The first act, granting a sum of money to the Duke of Wellington for the purchase of an estate, was passed December 22, 1812 (53 George III. c. 4). For this purpose, and in gratitude for the services of the Duke, "particularly at the battle of Salamanca," it vests in the hands of certain trustees the sum of 100,000*l.* to be applied as above stated. This act was amended by another (53 George III. c. 133), empowering the trustees to lay out a portion of the money in the erection of buildings. The next grant was made by the 54th George III. c. 161, which gives to the same fund the additional sum of 400,000*l.* (or an annuity of 13,000*l.*) to the Duke and his heirs. The sum granted after the battle of Waterloo was 200,000*l.*, by the act authorising which (55 George III. c. 186) it is enacted that the estate purchased with the money should be deemed to be holden of the crown, on condition of sending to the king at Windsor a tri-coloured flag on the 18th June, the anniversary of Waterloo.

SILCHESTER is about four miles west of Strathfieldsay, but is nearer the Basingstoke Station.

Silchester was certainly a Roman station of importance, though it is difficult to determine whether it was the *Callea Atrebatum* or the *Vin-*

domis of the Itinerary. Camden identifies it with the latter, and assigns to it the British name of *Caer Segont*, which is said to have been destroyed in the invasion by *Ella*, who founded the kingdom of the South Saxons. The remains of this station are among the most entire in the kingdom. The walls form an irregular octagon and are about a mile and a half in compass; they enclose a space of about 100 acres, divided into seven fields, together with the parish church and churchyard, a farmhouse and its offices. The enclosure contains several springs, and slopes to the south: the foundations of the streets may yet be traced running across it in parallel lines, and in the centre is an open space supposed to have been the forum, where the foundations of a large building and other remains have been dug up. The walls are generally from fifteen to eighteen feet high; on the south side, where they are most perfect, they are twenty feet. There are four gates, facing the four cardinal points: some other openings have been made since the ruin of the town. The walls are formed by layers of flat stones of variable dimensions, and of rubble-stone consolidated by cement: the whole is surrounded by a ditch which has in many parts been filled up by the ruins of the wall. Coins, inscribed stones, and other antiquities have been dug up. At a short distance north-east of the wall are the remains of an amphitheatre.

In 1833, some labourers, whilst cutting a drain in a field called the

Nine-acre Field, within the walls of *Silchester*, and at a distance of about 200 yards south-west from the church, struck upon three ancient foundations. The Rev. Mr. Cole, having obtained permission from the owner to prosecute the discovery, soon caused to be laid bare the entire foundations of what appeared to have been the *Thermæ*, or public hot baths of the Roman city. There were five rooms in all, of which three are supposed to have been *Hypocausts*, the fourth the *Natatio*, or water-bath, and the fifth a large ante-room, where the bathers undressed. The floors of the first three stood upon numerous round and square pillars of Roman brick, each about 3 feet 4 inches in height and 9 inches in diameter; the walls were 3 feet 4 inches thick, and their dimensions 25 feet each one way, whilst the others were respectively 11 feet 12 inches, 12 feet 9 inches, and 19 feet. The floors were composed of large square tiles, on which, in a bed of cement, had probably been originally a tessellated pavement. The ante-room was also paved with large square tiles, surrounded by a border of *tesserae*, each an inch square. A quantity of broken window-glass full of air-bubbles, and having a coarse surface, was found here. A human skeleton found in the *natatio*, and with which was, in all probability, connected the Roman coins, to the number of above 200, found in a water-pipe in the same place. The skull of a dog was also lying close by.

CHAPTER VI.

BASINGSTOKE STATION.

THE Basingstoke station is 46 miles from London, 18 miles from that at Winchester, and 30½ from the terminus of the railway at Southampton: it is 290 feet higher than the London terminus. The town of Basingstoke is an important centre of communication with various parts of the county, the roads from Newbury and Reading, from Southampton and Winchester, from Alton and the Gosport road, and a road from Preston Candover, forming a junction at this point with the great western road. The Basingstoke Canal commences here, and communicates with the Thames by the river Wey, in Surrey, thus affording great facilities for the trade of the town. Before the opening of the South-western Railway, the number of coaches passing through Basingstoke was very great, but they have nearly all ceased to run, and not only is the appearance of the town much less cheerful and lively in consequence of this change, but many local interests are suffering from the transition.

The great western road from London through Basingstoke enters the county at its north-eastern extremity, and passing for about 5 miles along a ridge of high ground, crosses the Blackwater,

passing through Hartford Bridge and Hook to BASINGSTOKE, a distance of about 14 miles.

Although the country around Basingstoke is surrounded with woods, it is rich in pasture, and many fine houses are dispersed through it. A brook which runs by the town, called the Town Brook, rises about one mile and a half west of Basingstoke, and is the main branch of the Loddon, an affluent of the Thames. Basingstoke is mentioned in Domesday Book under the name of *Basingtokes*, and is described as having always been a royal manor which had never paid tax or been distributed into hides, and which had, at the time of the Survey, a market worth 30s. The Saxon addition of Stoke, or hamlet, would imply that previous to the Conquest it was of inferior importance to Basing, now called Old Basing, in its neighbourhood.

At a short distance west from Basingstoke is an ancient encampment: the embankment is about 1100 yards in circumference, but no traces of a ditch are visible: it has two entrances, respectively east and west; its form is that of an irregular oval, approaching to an oblong square.

An hospital for the maintenance of aged and impotent priests was founded at Basingstoke by Henry III. at the instance of Walter de Merton, Bishop of Rochester and Lord Chancellor in that reign, and it became eventually appropriated to the reception of superannuated fellows and scholars from the prelate's other foundation, Merton College, at Oxford. It stood on the north side of the brook, a little below the town bridge, and some remains of it might be traced not very long ago.

On an eminence at the northern extremity of Basingstoke are the remains of the Holy Ghost Chapel, described by Camden as having been erected in the reign of Henry VIII. by Sir William (afterwards Lord) Sandes. Mr. Carter, however, is of opinion that the architecture of the chapel is not of later date than the reign of Edward IV., although carvings appear to have been added and alterations made in the reign of Henry VIII. The site is known to have been an ancient burying-place, and as Winchester had bishops as early as the period of the Saxon Heptarchy, it is not improbable that there may be some truth in the tradition which makes a religious edifice to have then existed here, and in which, according to the same testimony, seven Saxon kings worshipped at one time. The tradition is also in some slight measure supported by the fact that Kingsclere, in the neighbourhood, was a royal residence during the Saxon period. The present chapel was at least re-established in accordance with licence granted by Henry VIII. about

1516 to Bishop Fox of Winchester and Sir William afterwards Lord Sandes; it was dedicated to the Holy Ghost, and a brotherhood or guild established within it, which was by perpetual succession to continue for ever. At the dissolution the chapel escaped for the time; but in the reign of Edward VI. it was broken up, and the estate taken for the king's use. In 1556, during the reign of Queen Mary, upon the petition of the inhabitants and at the intercession of Cardinal Pole, the guild was re-established and the estate returned for the maintenance of a priest, for the celebration of divine service, and for the instruction of the young men and boys of the town. The estate was again sequestered in the Civil War, and the school closed for many years, till in 1670 Bishop Morley succeeded in obtaining their restoration. All the persons of whom the guild consisted in Queen Mary's reign were Papists: it is supposed that after her death no new members were admitted, and before the reign of James I. the fraternity had become extinct. The estate is still appropriated to ecclesiastical purposes.

The chapel is built of brick faced with freestone, and in a highly-enriched style of architecture. On piers between the windows on the south side are long, narrow pedestals, with niches rising above them. The angles of the tower are decorated in the same way. On the roof in the interior, Camden informs us that the history of the prophets, apostles, and disciples of Christ was very artificially described. Owing to neglect,

the chapel is now in ruins. It is said to have been stripped of a leaden roof during the siege of Basing House, in order to make balls for the besiegers, whilst others affirm that the chapel was tiled, and that the tiles have disappeared within a comparatively recent period. The present remains of the chapel are parts of the east and south walls, and a beautiful hexagonal turret tower at the south-west, which is almost entire with the exception of the winding stairs of its interior, which are completely gone. Camden states that Lord Sandes, who is supposed to have founded the guild and built the chapel without any pecuniary assistance from his nominal coadjutor Bishop Fox, lies buried here—a statement partially corroborated by the large pieces of marble dug up among the rubbish many years since, and bearing a coat of arms and other figures upon them. Adjoining the chapel is a regularly-built room, which has been supposed to have been the body of an ancient church, to which the chapel was attached as the chancel or choir. This is the only place that has been used for many years, as the chapel or school-room.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a spacious and handsome building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a low square tower. The south side of the church is of stone, but the other sides are constructed with alternate squares of brick and stone. It was built in the reign of Henry VIII. under the direction of Fox, Bishop of Winchester. The living, which is of

considerable value, is a discharged vicarage in the gift of Magdalen College, Oxford: it is of the clear annual value of 572*l*.

When woollen manufactures began to be first established in this country, Basingstoke obtained a considerable share in the business, and was particularly noted for its druggets and shalloons. These manufactures have long ceased; and at present melting and the corn trade form the principal business, which has been much facilitated by the canal. The market is on Wednesday, and the fairs on Easter Tuesday, Wednesday in Whitsun week, 23rd of September, and 10th of October; all, except the second, are chiefly fairs for cattle. The number of houses in the town, according to the returns of 1831, was 727; and the population consisted of 3581 persons, of whom 1863 were females. The town was incorporated at an early date, and is at present governed by a mayor, four aldermen, and twelve councillors. The petty sessions are held here. Basingstoke possesses a free school of some repute, and three charity schools, one of which, for the maintenance, clothing, and education of twelve boys, is supported by the Skinners' Company of London. John de Basingstoke, a distinguished scholar of the thirteenth century, was born at Basingstoke. He was, indeed, an extraordinary person for his time. Though the date of his birth does not appear to be fixed, he was alive in the year 1230, and studied not only at Oxford and Paris, after the custom of

the age, but also at Athens; a fact remarked by Leland as uncommon in the history of English scholars at that time, who seldom proceeded farther eastward for the prosecution of their studies, and improvement in learning, than Rome or Venice. At Athens he studied the sciences under Constantina, daughter of the Archbishop of Athens. Leland says, at his return he brought with him into England various Greek manuscripts, which, together with his proficiency in that tongue, caused Hugh Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, a great restorer of that language, to promote him to the archdeaconry of Leicester. It was upon Basing's information, as Matthew Paris tells us, that Grosseteste sent to Athens for a Greek manuscript entitled 'The Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs,' which, when obtained, he translated into Latin. Sir James Lancaster, the navigator, and the brothers Joseph and Thomas Warton, were also born at Basingstoke. The former of the Wartons (born 1722, died 1800) is known by his 'Essays on the Writings and Genius of Pope;' and Thomas Warton (born 1728, died 1790) was poet laureate, and wrote 'The History of English Poetry:' both were distinguished for their learning and classical attainments. Their father was vicar of Basingstoke, and was master of the free school, at which Gilbert White and several other well-known persons were educated.

The small village of OLD BASING is about a mile east of Basingstoke, near the line of the railway. It has been

distinguished from an early period of our history, as the scene of a severe battle fought in 871 between the Danes and the Saxons, when the latter, under the command of Alfred and his brother King Ethelred, were defeated; and in later times it has become no less memorable for the gallant defence of Basing House.

There appears to have been a castle here at a very remote period; for in a grant made to the priory of Monks' Sherbourne, in the reign of Henry II., mention is made of the "old castle of Basing." This appears to have been rebuilt in a magnificent manner by Paulet, the first Marquis of Winchester, a nobleman in some degree remarkable for his skill in courtiership: he lived during four reigns, those of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth, and enjoyed the royal favour in all. We may add, that he himself is said to have explained the secret—the "being a willow and not an oak." We have said that he rebuilt Basing House in a magnificent manner: according to Camden, it was rendered so magnificent and costly as to be "overpowered by its own weight;" the expenses it entailed upon the owner were so great, that the builder's posterity were forced to pull down some part of it. In this splendid mansion the marquis had the gratification of receiving Elizabeth in 1560, and of entertaining her in so royal a manner that she playfully lamented his great age, remarking, "By my troth, if my lord treasurer were but a young man, I

could find in my heart to love him for a husband before any man in England." The queen came here again in 1601, and was entertained by the fourth marquis for "thirteen dayes," and, as we are told and can very well believe, "to the greate charge of the sayde Lorde Marquesse," for during her visit Elizabeth received in state the French ambassador, the Duke of Biron, who was accompanied with about twenty other French noblemen, and a retinue of some 400 persons. It is recorded that the Queen made this circumstance a matter of gratulation, saying, "she had done that in Hampshire that none of her ancestors ever did, neither that any prince in Christendom could do; that was, she had, in her progresses, in her subjects' houses, entertained a royal ambassador, and had *royally entertained him*."

In August, 1643, Basing House, then very strongly fortified by John, fifth marquis, for the king, was invested by the parliamentary troops, and for a period of two years, broken however by occasional intermissions, was continually harassed by the enemy. During this time many assaults were made, particularly by Sir William Waller, who within nine days three times attempted to carry the house, but was repelled with great loss, and ultimately obliged to retreat. On their part, too, the besieged troops kept the besiegers in a constant state of anxiety and alarm by repeated sallies. After Waller's defeat the parliamentary forces of Hampshire and Sussex were collected under

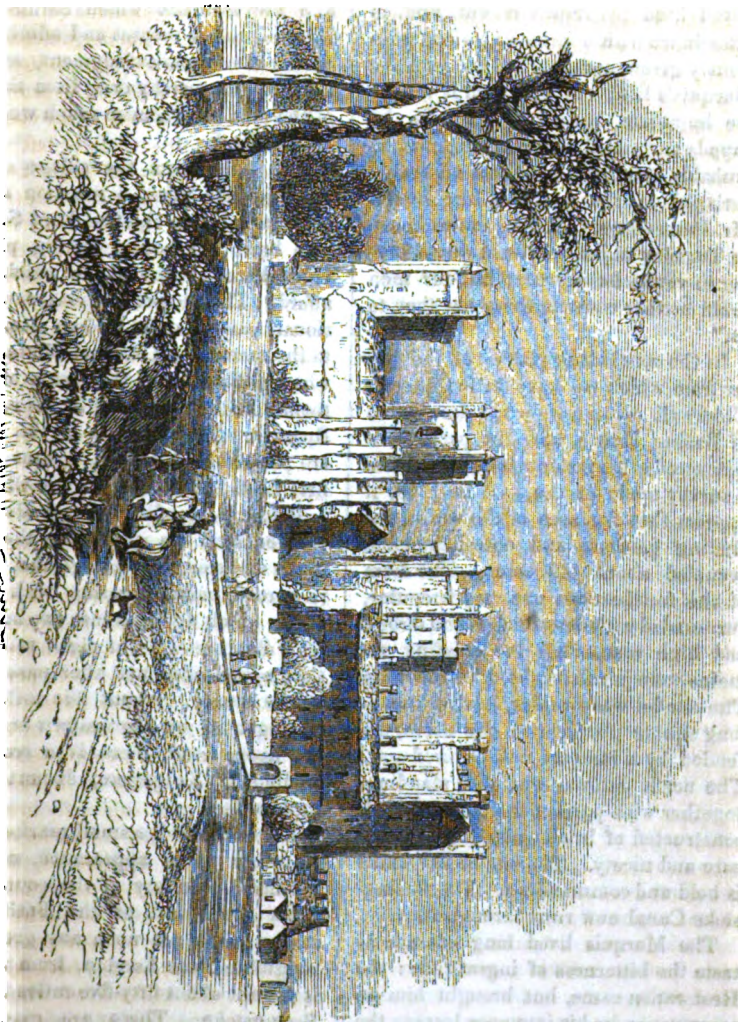
Colonel Norton, who once more summoned the marquis to surrender. The answer was, "If the king had no more ground in England than Basing House, he would maintain it to the uttermost." Famine now promised to accomplish for the parliament what its soldiers could not; the distress of the garrison became so great that in September, 1644, the marquis, after having in vain sent messenger after messenger to Charles, who was at Oxford, for relief, was compelled to send a last notice that in ten days he must surrender if no assistance were given. For the time, however, the brave defenders of Basing House were saved by the courage and address of Colonel Gage, who, seeing their desperate condition, volunteered to convey them provisions. He succeeded in accomplishing this object, and in returning to Oxford, with the loss of eleven men killed and forty or fifty wounded. This protracted defence would naturally draw the eyes of the nation upon the struggle, and make it imperative upon the parliamentarians to succeed. Accordingly the attack was next confided to the man who knew not defeat; Cromwell appeared before it, and the fate of the place was sealed. His force consisted of three regiments of foot and three regiments of horse; the garrison, according to Sir Robert Peake (its governor, under the marquis), of 300 fighting men, but according to his antagonists of about 500. The house was also defended by about ten pieces of ordnance. The result is best told in Cromwell's own brief, business-like let-

ter to the Speaker of the House of Commons, dated 14th of October, 1645:—

"SIR,—I thank God I can give you a good account of Basing. After our batteries placed, we settled the several posts for a storm: Col. Dalbeere was to be on the north side of the house next the grange, Col. Pickering on his left hand, and Sir Hardresse Waller's and Col. Montague's regiments next him. We stormed this morning after six of the clock: the signal for falling on was the firing from our cannon, which being done, our men fell on with great resolution and cheerfulness. We took the two houses without any considerable loss to ourselves. Col. Pickering stormed the new house, passed through and got the gate of the old house, whereupon they summoned a parley, which our men would not bear. In the mean time Col. Montague's and Sir Hardresse Waller's regiments assaulted the strongest work, where the enemy kept his court of guard, which, with great resolution, they recovered, beating the enemy from a whole culverin and from that work; which having done, they drew their ladders after them, got over another work and the house wall before they could enter. In this, Sir Hardresse Waller, performing his duty with honour and diligence, was shot in the arm, but not dangerously. We have had little loss: many of the enemies our men put to the sword, and some officers of quality; most of the rest we have prisoners, amongst which are the Marquis and Sir Robert Peake, with divers other officers, whom I have ordered to be sent up to you. We have taken about ten pieces of ordnance, much ammunition, and our soldiers a good encouragement," &c.

The booty, thus delicately phrased, was indeed considerable, being valued

at 200,000*l*. It consisted of money, jewels, provisions, the magnificent furniture, and, in a word, the entire contents of Basing House. The provisions and furniture were sold to the country-people. What the soldiers left a fire destroyed, caused by the neglect of the garrison in quenching a fire-ball thrown by the besiegers. In less than twenty hours, Basing House literally presented nothing but bare walls and chimneys. The prisoners were about two hundred in number, and the slain about one hundred: of these there were counted in the house immediately after the assault seventy-four men and one woman, a young lady, the daughter of Dr. Griffith, whose fate is very pitiable: "she came," says Mr. Peters, Cromwell's messenger to the parliament, "railing against our soldiers for their rough carriage towards her father," whom he acknowledges they used hardly, on account of his opinions and past conduct. Her two sisters, and six or seven other ladies of rank, appear to have been permitted to escape without any serious injury. The Marquis himself would in all probability have fallen a victim to the rage of the soldiers but for an incident of a nature which it is especially gratifying to meet with in such transactions. The week before, Col. Hammond, the parliamentary officer, had been taken prisoner by the Marquis: when the assault of the house was evidently successful, and all hope leaving the besieged, they began to hide themselves where they could from the fury of their enemies; at that moment the Colonel was re-



[Basing House after the Siege.]

lieved from his imprisonment, and, in accordance with a promise he had previously given, endeavoured to save the Marquis's life; and although it was at the imminent hazard of his own, he happily succeeded. Many of the garrison probably escaped, and others miserably perished in the vaults of the house. Mr. Peters says, "Riding to the house on Tuesday night, we heard divers crying in vaults for quarter; but our men could neither come to them nor they to us."

In the concluding portion of the letter from which we have before quoted, Cromwell recommends the destruction of Basing House, and the parliament concurred in his recommendation. From a survey made of the spot in 1798, it appears that the area of the works, including gardens and entrenchments, occupied about $14\frac{1}{2}$ acres. The form of the fortifications was very irregular, surrounded with deep ditches and strong and high ramparts; the existing remains were peculiarly bold and striking. The citadel was circular, having an oblong square platform on the north, defended by a rampart and covered-way. The north gateway was still standing, together with parts of the outward wall, constructed of brick, joined with great care and nicety. The site of the ruins is bold and commanding. The Basingstoke Canal now runs through it.

The Marquis lived long enough to taste the bitterness of ingratitude: the Restoration came, but brought him no recompense for his immense losses; the exertions, the anxieties, the gallantry,

and the fortitude which entitled the Marquis to our respect and admiration, produced no acknowledgment, at least no fitting or worthy one, from the son of the man for whom so much was done and suffered.

Two miles from the village of Old Basing is the VINE, a mansion said to be so called from the first Lord Sandes, who built the house, having planted vines here for the shade which they afford. The chapel contains some curiously carved stalls, and an altar-tomb to the memory of Chaloner Chute, Esq., who was Speaker of the House of Commons: he is represented in his robes as Speaker. The windows of the chapel are pointed, and exhibit figures of the first Lord Sandes and his two wives.

Before proceeding further along the western road we will notice the roads north and south of Basingstoke. There is a road communicating with Berkshire, which diverges into two branches for a distance of about eight miles, but they again unite just after passing out of the county. About five miles from Basingstoke, on the western branch of the above road, there is a cross-road leading to Kingsclere, distant about three miles.

KINGSCLERE is a small market-town, of rather mean appearance, near the northern boundary of the county, ten miles north-west of the Basingstoke station: it is not upon any great thoroughfare from London, from which it is distant about fifty-five miles through Basingstoke. There are roads from Newbury, distant seven miles, and from

Reading, distant seventeen miles, which form a junction at Kingsclere before joining the great western road. The parish of Kingsclere is large, containing 17,240 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 3151, three-fourths agricultural: the parish extends into the hundred of Evingar. There is some trade in malt carried on: the market is on Tuesday, and there are two fairs in the year. The living is a vicarage, with the chapelries of Ecchinwell and Sidmorton annexed, in the diocese and archdeaconry of Winchester, of the yearly value of 400*l*. At Kingsclere was anciently a residence of the West Saxon kings, and there was a royal residence in the neighbourhood as late as the time of King John.

On the border of the county, between Strathfieldsay and the road from Basingstoke to Reading is **SILCHESTER**, where there was once a Roman station: it lies north by east from the railway station at Basingstoke.

The road to Alton, distant about 11 miles from Basingstoke, connects the latter town with the London and Gosport road: it passes through Winslade, Herriarde and Lasham.

HACKWOOD PARK, the seat of Lord Bolton, is close to this road, and about a mile from Basingstoke. The site of the present mansion was occupied in the time of Queen Elizabeth by a lodge, used as a place of meeting and banqueting by hawking parties, who found in this neighbourhood peculiar facilities for the enjoyment of their sport, in consequence of which the spot became

known as the *Hawking Wood*—since corrupted into Hackwood. After the demolition of Basing House, the Marquis of Winchester adapted the lodge for a residence. The present edifice was principally built about 1688, (which date appears in various parts of it) by the Duke of Bolton, the son of the distinguished nobleman we have mentioned. The house at that time consisted of a large central building, connected with two considerable wings by open corridors. The great hall extended without interruption from the ground floor to the roof; in a subsequent alteration this immense height was reduced to 20 feet, and the hall enriched by some oak carvings by Gibbons, brought from another seat belonging to the family. The late Lord Bolton erected a new front on the north, with a handsome portico, and which he connected with the old wings in a very graceful and useful manner. Opposite the entrance of this front is an equestrian statue of George I., given by that monarch to the Duke of Bolton. Among the pictures are some interesting portraits: for instance, a whole-length of the gallant defender of Basing House, and of his second wife who aided him on that occasion, and wrote a journal of the proceedings. We may also mention the portrait of Charles, the third earl, who married Miss Fenton, the original representative of Polly in the 'Beggars Opera.' The park and pleasure-grounds are very interesting. Among the chief attractions we may enumerate the following:—Spring Wood is a noble col-

lection of the finest forest trees, on which ivy has been allowed to grow so long undisturbed that it has reached the highest branches, and is now seen hanging in thick loose chains of rich foliage, which give to the whole a peculiarly beautiful effect both in winter and summer. In another part of the park we find everything so disposed as to give the idea of a rich but neglected wilderness, wherein a space of about four acres assumes the form of an ancient amphitheatre, bounded by a wall of elms thickly planted and inclining inwards over the area. The stage is a flat lawn at the lower end, from which rise seats of turf, in successive stories, divided in the centre by a broad passage extending from the bottom to the top, where we find a circular recess with the ruins of a rotunda. There are also two ornamental buildings in the grounds deserving mention—one with a handsome front of the Doric order, an open colonnade in the centre, and which is connected with a fine sheet of water, and the other situated in what is called the French garden, with four fronts and a central dome, built in a heavy style of architecture. This has within a spacious apartment, stuccoed, and paved with marble, and commanding from the windows, which are decorated with beautiful flowering shrubs and double blossoming fruit trees, some fine park views. This is said to have been the favourite music-room of the actress-duchess. The whole of the pleasure-grounds and adjoining parts of the park are supposed to have been formerly one large wood, and con-

nected by avenues of chestnut-trees, two miles long, with Basing House.

The distance from Basingstoke to Winchester is $17\frac{1}{2}$ miles: the road passes through Popham, East Stratton and Worthy: at Popham Lane there is a branch road to Salisbury through Stockbridge, the latter place being 21 miles from Basingstoke.

The ANDOVER ROAD STATION, on the South-western Railway, 10 miles from the Basingstoke station, and 8 miles from that at Winchester, is about half a mile west of the present road. This station affords the readiest mode of access to that part of Hampshire which lies immediately to the west and south-west, and to such places as are situated in the vicinity of the station. It is also the nearest point of communication between the railway and Blandford, Hindon, Salisbury, Shaftesbury, Sturminster, Wilton, and with the county of Wilts generally.

STRATTON PARK, the seat of Sir Thomas Baring, Bart., lies by the side of the high road, at a spot distant about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Basingstoke. Its beauty of situation is so remarkable that Francis, the fifth Earl of Bedford, to whom the estate then belonged, pulled down a great part of the mansion, leaving only a single wing standing, in order that its attractions might not induce his successors to neglect the magnificent residence of Woburn, which he had built. On purchasing it from the Bedford family, the late Sir Francis Baring, whom Erskine designated as "the first merchant of the world," re-

built the house, and made great improvements in the grounds. The exterior is in the Italian style—pleasing and elegant, and the interior combines comfort with magnificence to an extent unsurpassed in any part of the country. In the park is a long avenue consisting of the very finest old trees. The chief attraction of the mansion however is the collection of paintings, which is very numerous, contains many works of great value, and is on the whole unusually complete. The gem of the collection however has gone,—this was a Holy Family by Raphael, which cost Sir Thomas 4000*l.*, and which he was induced to part with to the King of Bavaria for 5000*l.* There is still an original work by that artist, a portrait of a young man, supposed to be Lorenzo de Medici. Among the more valuable and interesting of the pictures we may enumerate those of the Roman school, by Vasari, Raphael, and Giulio Romano; of the Venetian,—Giovanni Bellini, Giorgione, Titian, Giacomo Bassano, Paul Veronese; of the Lombard school,—Correggio, Parmagianio, Schidone; of the Carracci school,—Ludovico and Annibale Carracci, Domenichino, Guido Reni, Guercino, Carlo Dolce; of the Spanish,—Morales, Velasquez, Murillo (no less than five of this master); of the French,—N. & G. Poussin; of the Flemish—Jan Van Eyck, Rubens, Vandyck, Rembrandt; of the English,—Opie, Northcote, Reynolds, &c. Among the pictures by artists, not included in the above classification, are those by Michael Angelo Caravaggio, Spagnoletto, Claude Lorraine, and Sal-

vator Rosa. Even this bare and brief notice will give some idea of the great richness of the collection, and particularly when we add that the cases are few in which there is not more than one fine specimen of the same artist.

There is one circumstance connected with the history of Stratton that must not be overlooked: it came into the possession of the Bedford family after the death of its previous owner, Thomas Earl of Southampton and Lord High Treasurer of England, by the marriage of his daughter to the illustrious patriot, Lord William Russell; who proved by her conduct under her husband's misfortunes that she was in every way worthy of him: higher praise it would be perhaps impossible to pay to her memory.

About two miles from Stratton is GRANGE PARK, the seat of Lord Ashburton. It is situated about 2 miles from the road, near the village of Northington, and about 5 miles from Winchester. The house was originally built by Inigo Jones, and Lord Orford mentions it as one of the best proofs of the architect's taste. In the present century it has been enlarged and the exterior wholly changed, under the direction of the late Mr. Wilkins. The elevation of the present front is striking; its principal feature is a grand portico, the style of which is borrowed from the Parthenon at Athens. In accordance with the model the massive columns are fluted, and they rest upon the bases without any intermediate plinth. The exterior consisted of five stories before the alteration; the uppermost being in a pou-

derous roof of great elevation. The lowest, which was used for offices, is now disused; the terrace, which has been raised around the house, conceals the basement floor, and the roof has been entirely taken away, consequently the mansion now appears to be only two stories in height. The alterations in the interior were made chiefly with the object of giving a more modern character to the rooms. The situation of the house being low, the views from it are not very extensive; but the pleasure-grounds, which are various and beautiful, partly compensate for the deficiency. The family of Henley, which possessed this estate for nearly two centuries, was of considerable note. Robert Henley was knighted and appointed attorney-general in 1756, and keeper of the great seal in the following year. In 1760 he was created Baron Henley of Grange, in the county of Southampton; in 1761 Lord Chancellor, and, in 1764, was raised to the dignity of the earldom of Northampton in the same county. This nobleman presided as high steward at the trial of Earl Ferrers. The family is now extinct.

The road to Preston Candover, 10 miles from Basingstoke, passes through Cliddesden and Nutley; and at Preston Candover it is connected with several important country roads.

Resuming our journey westward, we meet with no place of importance until we reach Whitchurch, $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Basingstoke.

WHITCHURCH, 56 or 57 miles from London, is situated on the great western

road, near the head of the river Anton, midway between Basingstoke and Andover: it is 12 miles from the Basingstoke station. The distance of the Andover-Road station, between Basingstoke and Winchester, is nearly one-half less, but the road from this point to Whitchurch is by the parish roads. The traveller who wishes to visit Whitchurch and the neighbourhood may leave the Railway at either station; but the facilities for reaching Whitchurch from Basingstoke are by far the most extensive. In 1840, an Act was obtained for improving certain roads west of this station.

Whitchurch is a borough and market town. The parish comprehends 7330 acres, with a population in 1831 of 1673, about half agricultural. Shalloons and serges are manufactured; also paper for the exclusive use of the Bank of England. The market-day is Friday. Whitchurch is a borough by prescription, and returned two members to parliament until disfranchised by the Reform Act. The living is a rectory, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the bishop of Winchester, of the yearly value of 140*l*. There were in 1833 seven day or boarding and day-schools, with above 230 children, and three Sunday-schools with above 300 children.

The road from Winchester to Newbury and Reading crosses the great western road at Whitchurch. The road to Reading, which place is about 17 miles from Whitchurch, branches off to the east about a mile north of the latter town,

and, after crossing the Roman road, passes through Kingsclere, already described.

The road from Whitchurch to Newbury proceeds in a direction due north, through Litchfield and Burgclere: Newbury is 13 miles from Whitchurch.

BURGCLERE, a small village at the foot of the Highclere and Kingsclere Hills, is between 7 and 8 miles north of Whitchurch. "From these hills you look at one view over the whole of Berkshire, into Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire, and you can see the Isle of Wight and the sea. On the north side the chalk soon ceases, the sand and clay begin, and the oak woods cover a great part of the surface."* Few men had a more lively idea of scenes of rural life and domestic comfort than Mr. Cobbett, and the features which characterise the North Hampshire hills were such as particularly delighted him, "where high downs prevail, with here and there a large wood on the top or side of a hill, and where you see in the deep dells, here and there a farm-house, and here and there a village, the buildings sheltered by a group of lofty trees. I like (he says) to look at the winding side of a great down, with two or three numerous flocks of sheep upon it belonging to different farms; and to see, lower down, the folds, in the field, ready to receive them for the night." The character of the country from Winchester to within two miles of Burgclere is such as is here described.

* • Rural Rides.

On the left of the road and between it and the road from Andover to Newbury is HIGHCLERE HOUSE, the seat of the Earl of Carnarvon: it is situated on a rising ground, in a noble park upwards of 13 miles in circumference. The Bishops of Winchester formerly possessed the manor, and had a residence here. Some of the public acts of William of Wykeham are dated at Highclere. In the reign of Edward VI. the estate was granted to the king, who re-granted it some time afterwards to Sir William Fitz-William. It was purchased from his successors by Sir Robert Sawyer, attorney-general to Charles II. and James II., and thence passed by marriage into the Pembroke family. Part of the present house was built upon the site of an older one, by the Hon. Robert Herbert; but its great enlargement, and the form it at present bears, it owes to the first Earl of Carnarvon, who died in 1811. The building is of brick, stuccoed, and is in the modern style of architecture. The entrance-hall measures 70 feet by 24, the library 33 by 23. There are a few good pictures by Vandyck, Reynolds, Gainsborough, &c. But the chief glory of Highclere is its park and pleasure-grounds. In the former, about a mile from the house, is Sidon Hill, which is 400 feet above the level of the ground. It is ascended by a winding road lined with plantations, and on the top we find a ruined arch and a grove of venerable trees. The views of the surrounding country from hence are most extensive and delightful. Beacon Hill, to the south-east of

Sidon Hill, presents a very different aspect, being completely destitute of foliage. An attraction of another kind, however, leads us to its summit, where we find an ancient encampment of irregular form, following the outline of the hill. The ditch is well preserved, and, where the ascent is easy, very deep. The entrance is on the south side, and defended by two ravelins. Within the enclosed area are vestiges of ancient huts, the origin of which may probably be coeval with the Britons; for they are of a circular form, rather elevated, with a small depression in the centre. Upon a ridge to the north is a raised bank of turf, apparently intended as an outpost. On a plain about a mile from the hill are seven large tumuli, and three small. Some of each kind have been opened, and ashes, &c. found as usual. The largest is no less than 100 yards in circumference, and about 10 or twelve feet high. About a mile and a half from Beacon Hill is another encampment, on an eminence called Ladle Hill, which includes an area of nearly eight acres; and at a short distance to the north-east, on the declivity of the hill, is another small circular earthwork, intended, doubtless, as an outpost to the first. There are three barrows south of this large camp. The entrance into the park lies between Sidon Hill and Beacon Hill, and is spanned by an arched gateway. On the side of Sidon Hill is a small castellated lodge. The park possesses a beautiful sheet of water called Milford Water, the effect of which is great

enhanced by the foliage of the venerable woods which completely surround it. There are various other ornamental buildings scattered about the demesne.

The road from Whitchurch to Winchester, a distance of 13 miles, is by a continuation of the roads from Reading and Newbury, which unite on the northern side of the western road, before entering Whitchurch. This road passes through Bullington and Wonsfort.

The continuation of the great western road from Whitchurch to Andover, a distance of 7 miles, is through Hurstbourne Priors.

Andover is 63 or 64 miles from London, by the Great Western Road. It is about 11 miles west of the station called the Andover Road Station, and 18 miles from the station at Basingstoke. The traveller, wishing to proceed to Andover, will therefore have to decide whether he will leave the line at Basingstoke and travel on a great highway a distance of 18 miles, or proceed 9 miles further by the railway and travel 11 miles by cross-roads.

The town is situated on the border of the downs which stretch into Wiltshire. It is on the left bank of the river Anton (a branch of the Test or Test, which falls into Southampton Water), and from its situation, gets the name of Andover (Saxon, *Andeafaran*, i. e. ferry, or passage over the river Ande).

The three principal streets are well paved, but not lighted; the houses are well built, and the town is well supplied with water. The church is near the north

end of it, and is a spacious structure, of very great antiquity, having existed as far back as the time of the Conqueror. At the west end is a fine semicircular arched doorway, with zigzag mouldings. The living, a vicarage, with the chapelry of Foxcote annexed, is in the patronage of Winchester College. There are meeting-houses for Baptists, Quakers, Independents, and Methodists; a free grammar school, with a school-house built and kept in repair by the corporation; and an almshouse for six poor men, erected and endowed by John Pollen, Esq., one of the members for the borough in the time of William III. Another almshouse, for six poor women, was built with funds bequeathed by Catherine Hanson, but not endowed. There is also a school-house, erected and endowed by John Pollen, Esq., for educating twenty poor children. This establishment is now incorporated with the National School, supported by additional subscriptions, in which 250 children are educated.

The town-hall is a handsome stone building with a Grecian front, supported by arches; the under part is used as a market-house. It was erected within these few years. The corporation is said to be as ancient as the time of John; but the present charter was granted by Queen Elizabeth.

Andover first returned members to Parliament in the time of Edward I.; but the right was lost, or disused, from the first year of Edward II. to the twenty-seventh year of Queen Elizabeth, when they were again sent, and have

since been regularly returned. Before the passing of the Reform Bill, the right of election was in the corporation, which was considered to be under the influence of the Earl of Portsmouth. By the Boundary Act connected with the Reform Bill, the tything of Foxcote was added to the borough, which had previously included the parishes of Andover and Knight's Enham. The population of the whole was, in 1839, 4966. The town is governed by a bailiff, four aldermen, and twelve councillors; the style of the corporate body is the bailiff, approved men and burgesses of the borough of Andover.

The chief business of the town consists in malting, and in the manufacture of silk, which has lately superseded that of shalloon, the former staple. A considerable quantity of timber is forwarded from Harewood Forest to Portsmouth, by means of the canal from this town, through Stockbridge, to Southampton Water. The market is on Saturday; and there are three fairs in the year.

Near Andover there are the remains of some Roman encampments, especially one on the summit of Bury Hill, a mile or two south-west of the town; and some beautiful specimens of Roman pavement have been found in the neighbourhood. (*Warner's Hampshire; Beauties of England and Wales.*)

AMPORT HOUSE, the seat of the Marquis of Winchester, derives its name from a village near Andover, southward of the western road, formerly called Anneport. The mansion is situated on

a gently rising ground, and on the borders of a well-wooded and extensive park, and presents altogether an effect that excites the admiration of every visitor. The projecting wings of the edifice are connected by a corridor, built in the Ionic style, and used as a conservatory of the choicest plants. The apartments in the interior are elegant and of good proportion. The lawn and pleasure-grounds, which extend in front of the house, are separated from the valley beyond by a sunken fence. Crossing the valley, and ascending the opposite steep, we command a fine extensive prospect of the surrounding country. A branch of the ancient and noble family of Paulet has long been resident here.

There is a road from Andover to Newbury which passes through Knight's Enham, King's Enham, and Hurstbourne Tarrant to Highclere, about 11 miles from Andover: Newbury is 6 miles from Highclere.

On the right of this road, between 7 and 8 miles from Andover, is the village of Hurstbourne Tarrant, near which is **HURSTBOURNE PARK**, the seat of the Earl of Portsmouth. It is situated about a mile westward on elevated ground, commanding fine prospects to the north, and south from Winchester. The mansion consists of a centre, and two uniform wings, connected with it by colonnades. The eastern wing contains a large library and chapel, the western is principally occupied by the offices, servants' apartments, &c., whilst the centre, constituting the general family residence, has some noble apartments. The edifice

was erected from the design of Wyatt. From the south (which is the principal) front, the ground gradually slopes to a fine sheet of water, which winds through a delightful park, well wooded, and abounding with deer.

The country around Hurstbourne consists of extensive downs. Mr. Cobbett remarks—"This country, though so open, has its beauties. The homesteads in the sheltered bottoms, with fine lofty trees about the houses and yards, form a beautiful contrast with the large open fields. The little villages, running straggling along the dells (always with lofty trees and rookeries), are very interesting objects even in the winter; you feel a sort of satisfaction when you are out upon the bleak hills yourself at the thought of the shelter which is experienced in the dwellings in the valleys."

The road from Newbury to Andover divides into two branches at the latter town, one proceeding to Salisbury and the other to Winchester. The road from Andover to Winchester, a distance of about 14 miles, passes through Wherwell and over Barton Stacey Down.

At **WHERWELL**, 4 miles from Andover, a nunnery was founded by Elfrida about 986, as an atonement for the murder of her first husband, Athelwold, and of her step-son King Edward the Martyr. The accession of Edward had been opposed by a faction, at the head of whom was Elfrida, who maintained the right of her own son to the vacant throne, but Edward was formally accepted as king by the Witenagemote.

This however did not extinguish the ambitious hopes of his mother-in-law; and while Edward was hunting one day, he stopped at the gate of her residence, Corfe Castle, in Dorsetshire, when he was stabbed by an assassin in the back as he sat on horseback drinking a cup of mead. Elfrida spent the close of her infamous life in this nunnery, and was buried within its walls.

The country from Hurstbourne Tarrant to Wherwell is a bed of chalk covered with a thin soil.

There is a road from Andover to Amesbury, in Wiltshire, which enters the latter county about ten miles from Andover.

About 3 miles from Andover, on this road, is the village of WEYHILL, where one of the largest fairs in England is held. This fair begins on the 10th of October, and continues for six days. It is thus described in '*Magna Britannia Hibernia*,' a survey of Great Britain, published in 1720:—"This fair is reckoned to be as great an one as any in England, for many commodities, and for sheep indisputably the biggest, the farmers coming out of the south, north, and east to buy the Dorsetshire ewes here. It is also a great hop and cheese fair, the former being brought out of Sussex and Kent, and the latter out of Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, and Somersetshire." The above account of the chief articles of trade will apply with little alteration to the present day. The sale of sheep, though the favourite breed may be different, is still great; more than 140,000 have been sold on the first day. The

Farnham hops, the choicest of any grown in England, are chiefly sold here, and a place appropriated to their sale bears the name of Farnham Row. Many horses, particularly cart colts, are also sold. During this fair assemblies are held in the town-hall at Andover.

The great road from Andover to Salisbury passes out of the county at Iobcombe Corner, about 10 miles from Andover and 8 from Salisbury. This road crosses the beautiful valley which winds between the hills to Stockbridge, after which it rises upon the downs, which form the commencement of the tract called Salisbury Plain. Between Andover and the verge of the county are several remains of camps and earthworks.

Danebury hill is a long elevated ridge running nearly E. and W. and terminating abruptly at a point or head: at that spot is found an ancient circular intrenchment in good preservation, and which is known by the name of Danebury Camp. It encloses an extensive area. The entrance is by a winding course protected by great banks. The rampart of the area is very high, and protected on the outside by a single ditch on the north and south sides where the descent is abrupt, and by a double one elsewhere. On the W. and N.W. of this camp are several barrows; one of them about a mile distant bears the name of Canute's Barrow.

About five miles from Danebury, in a north-western direction, is another considerable camp, which occupies the summit of Quarley Mount, an eminence to

the south of the road. This is supposed to have been the opposing camp to that of Danebury, or in other words, that the two camps were erected at the same period and by hostile forces. On the south side the works are quadruple; there is a space of sixty paces between the two outer lines, and of thirty-six between the others. The eastern side

is ploughed up; the others measure respectively 210, 240, and 290 paces. Over the downs in the vicinity are scattered various tumuli. There are also the remains of Roman camps at Ottebury, about six miles from Andover; and at Frippsbury, about five miles from Ottebury.

CHAPTER VII.

THE WINCHESTER STATION.

THE Winchester station is 64 miles from the London terminus of the South-Western Railway, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ from the terminus at Southampton. The high road from London to Southampton and Poole passes through Winchester, and it is about 12 miles south of the great thoroughfare from the metropolis to the south-western counties. Being, however, nearly in the centre of the county, many important county roads form a junction at Winchester. The distance from London, by the London and Southampton road, is $62\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Besides the railway, the traveller who starts from the metropolis has the choice of two roads, namely, the road which branches from the great western road at Basingstoke, and the one which branches from the London and Gosport road near Alton.

The origin of the city of WINCHESTER lies concealed in the farthest depths of our British antiquities. Tradition, and the evidence of our oldest historical monuments, concur with the probability afforded by the situation of the place in making it out as having been one of the earliest settlements of the first inhabitants of the island. In this way it may possibly have existed as a

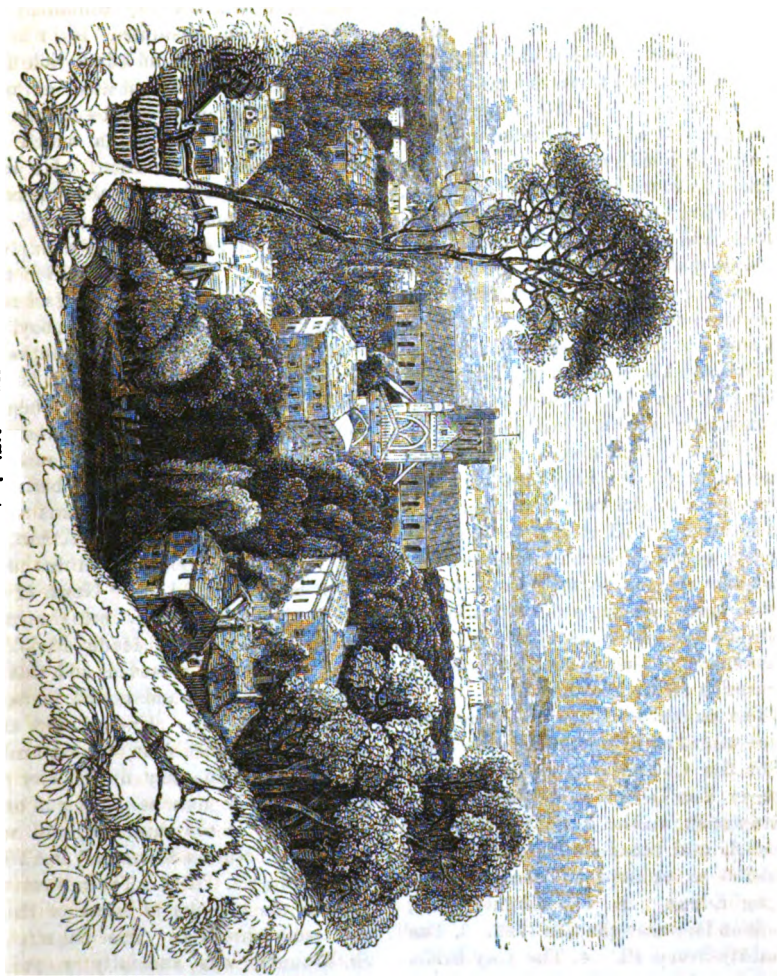
village in the woods for a thousand years before the Christian era. When the Romans first landed in Britain, about half a century before the birth of Christ, the tract of country in which Winchester stands appears to have been peopled by a Belgic tribe, who had come over from the continent about two hundred years before. It is said that the British name of Winchester was then *Caer Gwent*, or the town of Gwent, which the Romans Latinised into *Vinta*, calling it commonly the *Vinta of the Belgæ*. If it had been, as is commonly thought, the capital of England in the times of the Britons, it regained that distinction under the Saxons, on the union of the country under one sceptre in the beginning of the ninth century, by Egbert, king of Wessex, to whose original dominions it had belonged. Winchester was more than once ravaged by the Danes, who landed at Southampton. Here, in 1002, commenced the massacre of the Danes, who had settled in England. From this time till the reign of Edward the Confessor, in the middle of the eleventh century, Winchester retained the dignity of chief city of the realm. Here Alfred and Canute

principally resided and held their courts; and the cathedral was the burial-place of Saxon and Danish kings. Even after the erection of the abbey and palace of Westminster by the Confessor, and the attachment which he showed to that neighbourhood, had crowned the long-rising importance of London, Winchester continued for a considerable period to dispute pre-eminence with its rival. During the reigns of the Conqueror and his two sons, in particular, it may be said to have still maintained an equality with London. William Rufus was crowned here, and his remains were interred in the cathedral. Here were the royal mint, treasury, and public record office, a palace and a strong castle. It was not perhaps considered to have altogether lost its old metropolitan supremacy till the reign of Richard I., towards the close of the twelfth century. Parliaments were held at Winchester both in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Prince Arthur, son of Henry VII., was born at the castle, and Henry VIII. entertained the Emperor Charles V. at the same place in 1522. The castle was garrisoned during the civil war under Charles I., first by the parliamentary party, from whom the royalists captured it in 1643, when it was retaken after the fight at Naseby. This castle, which had been erected by William the Conqueror, was nearly demolished on its surrender; and the city walls, as well as Wolvesey Palace, the residence of the bishops, were greatly damaged at the same time. The parliamentary soldiers also committed excesses in the

cathedral by destroying monuments and mutilating and injuring parts of the edifice. The remains of the castle are now scanty: the chapel attached to the castle is now used as the county hall for holding the assizes, and here is suspended Arthur's Round Table, which was fresh painted on the occasion of the entertainment given to Charles V. The bishop's palace was rebuilt in 1684. Winchester was a favourite city both of Charles II. and his brother James II. The former sovereign commenced the erection of a palace on the site of the old castle in 1682, but he died in less than two years after laying the foundation stone. Prince George of Denmark visited Winchester in 1707, accompanied by his consort Queen Anne, and they were also so well pleased with the city and the country around it, that the prince resolved upon completing the palace commenced by King Charles; but again death interposed, and the original design has never been finished. The building has been used as an abode for prisoners of war, and is now occupied as barracks. The principal floor consists of a suite of rooms, 160 in number.

Winchester is situated on the eastern slope of an eminence, at the foot of which flows the Itchin, which is navigable for barges, and empties itself into Southampton Water. The city consists of several good streets lighted with gas and well paved: the principal street is half a mile long, and is intersected at right angles with secondary streets of nearly the same length. Of the four ancient gates only one is now remain-

[VI. W of Winchester.



ing, and the ditches have in many places been filled up, and all trace of them and the old walls obliterated.

When visited by the Boundary Commissioners in 1831, they remarked in their Report that Winchester was gradually, and with respect to some portions of it annually increasing in houses, population, and wealth. The ecclesiastical and other corporate bodies who hold property in the city, are not empowered to grant long leases, and therefore building is not encouraged on their estates, and the increase in the number of houses takes place chiefly upon freehold property. Winchester has no manufactures: it is the residence of various individuals connected with the management of the county business; and there are also the cathedral dignitaries and the parochial clergy, so that the society of the place has many attractions for persons living upon a handsome independence, who have also the additional inducement which the College holds out as a superior place of education for their children.

The public buildings whose appearance will attract the traveller's attention after the Cathedral and the College, are—1. The Town Hall, erected in 1711: here are shown the ancient Winchester bushel, and other standard measures, ordered to be kept at Winchester by King Edgar. 2. The County Gaol, built on Howard's plan, in 1788. 3. The County Bridewell. 4. The City Bridewell. 5. The County Hospital, erected in 1759. There are nine parish churches: before the dissolution the churches and

chapels which the city contained are said to have amounted to ninety. Winchester, indeed, affords a rich field to the student of ecclesiastical antiquities; but it is not possible to enumerate all the various sources to which he should direct his attention. He may refer with advantage to the works of Warner, Britton, and other topographical writers, if he wishes fully to explore this subject. The general reader will be interested to know that a gaol now occupies the site of Hyde Abbey, in which, before the high altar, the remains of the great Alfred were interred. Some years before his death he had begun building a monastery, which he intended as a burial-place for himself and his family; but he died two years before it was completed, and his remains were first interred in the cathedral, but, in 903, they were removed to his own abbey-church, called the "Newn Mynstre." This monastery being subsequently removed to Hyde Meadow, they were again removed and finally deposited, as before mentioned, in front of the high altar. King Alfred also assisted his Queen, Alswytha, in building another monastery in the city for persons of her own sex. It was near and parallel to the cathedral, and was called the "Nunna Mynstre," or Abbey of St. Mary's. It is in vain that we seek for the remains of many of these old establishments. The church of St. Maurice was anciently a priory chapel, and is distinguished for its low massive tower. St. Swithin's church also belonged to a priory, and

may be recognised by the stranger from the situation which it occupies over a postern gate called the King's Gate. St. John's House, or Hospital, in the High-street, is said to have been founded by a bishop of Winchester before the Conquest. It was once in the hands of the Templars; but when it was re-founded in the reign of Edward II., it was placed under the direction of the corporation, who obtained sole possession of it at the dissolution. Christ's Hospital, founded in 1586, for the support of six poor men, and the education and maintenance of four poor boys, has at present an income exceeding 400*l.* a year. Near the Cathedral there are alms-houses, endowed by Bishop Morley, in 1672, for the poor widows of clergymen. There are a number of other charities and endowments, which want of space will not allow us to mention: among them are three well-endowed charity schools. The Roman Catholics, the Independents, Baptists, Wesleyan Methodists, have places of worship in the city. The more modern of the city institutions include a public library and a mechanics' institute, the latter established in 1835: there are also public baths.

Reduced now to a town not containing, by the last census, quite 10,000 inhabitants, modern Winchester derives its chief importance from the ancient and splendid ecclesiastical establishment of which it is the seat. While the other bishops take rank according to the date of the consecration of each, the Bishop of Winchester holds perma-

nently the next place after those of London and Durham, who stand next to the two archbishops, and before all the rest of the episcopal bench. In point of opulence, also, this see has always been reckoned one of the first in England. The net income of the bishopric for the three years ending 1835, was 11,151*l.*, and that of the cathedral dignitaries and other officers was 12,783*l.* for the same period, after deducting expenses of various kinds.

THE CATHEDRAL.

The foundation of the see, and also that of the Cathedral of Winchester, have been carried back so far as the middle of the second century after the birth of Christ, when, it is affirmed, the British King Lucius, having become a convert to the true religion, erected here the first Christian church on the site of the chief Pagan temple. This legend, however, rests on too uncertain authority to be entitled to much regard. All that we really know of the ecclesiastical history of those times is, that Christianity was undoubtedly introduced into the island in the course of the first century; that the converts among the Roman settlers were some time after considerable for their numbers; and that it had been generally diffused among the British inhabitants prior to the Saxon invasion. It was not till after the commencement of the seventh century that the Saxon kings and people of Wessex were induced to relinquish Paganism. The first of the former who was baptized was Kinegils,

the great-great-grandson of Cerdic, the founder of the dynasty. His conversion, which took place about the year 635, and which was speedily followed by that of the greater number of his subjects, is attributed to St. Birinus, who had been sent over to preach the Gospel from Italy by Pope Honorius, and is accounted the first Bishop of Winchester. Kinegils began the building of a cathedral, but his death, which took place soon after, prevented him from carrying it much beyond the foundation. The work, however, was continued by his son and successor Kenewalch, and brought to a conclusion in 648, when it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity and to the Apostles Peter and Paul. This edifice is described as having been of great extent and magnificence; but any considerable building of stone, which is said to have been the material employed in the present instance, was calculated to excite admiration in that age. It stood, there can be no doubt, on the same spot which is occupied by the existing cathedral. In 871, however, in an attack made upon the city by the Danes, the sacred structure appears to have been, if not entirely demolished, so terribly injured as to have been reduced to little better than a ruin. It is probable that it was repaired by the great Alfred, when, some years after, he regained the throne of his ancestors; but in the middle of the next century we find the fabric to have fallen again into such complete decay, that the then bishop, St. Ethelwold, determined to pull it

down, and rebuild it from the foundation. St. Ethelwold's Cathedral was finished in the year 980.

Much controversy has taken place among writers on the architectural antiquities of Winchester, as to whether any or how much of the building erected by St. Ethelwold remains in the present cathedral. Some have contended that the entire church was rebuilt about a century after by Bishop Walkelyn, the prelate who was first appointed to the see after the Conquest; and certain of the statements of the old ecclesiastical historians would seem to imply that this was the fact. It seems to be generally acknowledged, however, that the character of the architecture of part of the east end is nearly decisive in favour of its superior antiquity to that of the rest of the church, and especially of the tower and those portions of the transepts and nave which are known to be the work of Walkelyn. Some have even contended, on evidence of a similar description, that parts of both the transepts and the nave must be considered to be of the age of Ethelwold.

The central tower, however, was undoubtedly built by Bishop Walkelyn, whose repairs and additions, whatever was their extent, were regarded as so important, that, upon their completion in 1093, the church underwent a new dedication to St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Swithin. After this, a portion of the east end was rebuilt towards the close of the eleventh century, by Bishop Godfrey de Lucy. But the most important improvements which were made



[Exterior of Winchester Cathedral.]

on the original structure were those which were commenced soon after the middle of the fourteenth century, by Bishop William de Edyndon, and continued and completed by his illustrious successor the celebrated William de Wykeham, who held this see from 1366 to 1404. The latter prelate may be said to have rebuilt nearly the whole of the cathedral to the westward of the central tower; and to him in particular is to be attributed the construction of the great west front, which is by far the most magnificent part of the edifice as it now exists. Finally, in the early part of the sixteenth century, a considerable part of the church to the east of the central tower was restored by Bishop Richard Fox, another of the distinguished prelates by whom this see was governed.

The Cathedral of Winchester, it will

be perceived from this sketch of its history, may be regarded as a nearly complete record and exemplification of all the successive changes in the Norman style of architecture, from its rise, or at least its introduction into this country, in the eleventh, till its disappearance in the sixteenth century. The building is in the usual form of a cross; and is one of the largest of our cathedrals, its length from east to west being 545 feet, and the breadth of the nave and aisles 87 feet. The nave is considered one of the finest in England, and is nearly the same length as that of York Minster. The length of the transepts from north to south is 186 feet; and the roof of the nave is 76 feet in height. The height of the tower is 138 feet, and its breadth 50 feet by 48. With the exception of the west front—which, with its noble window, its buttresses, and pinnaced

turrets, and the canopied statue of Wykeham that crowns its pointed termination, has a grand and imposing effect—the exterior of the church has

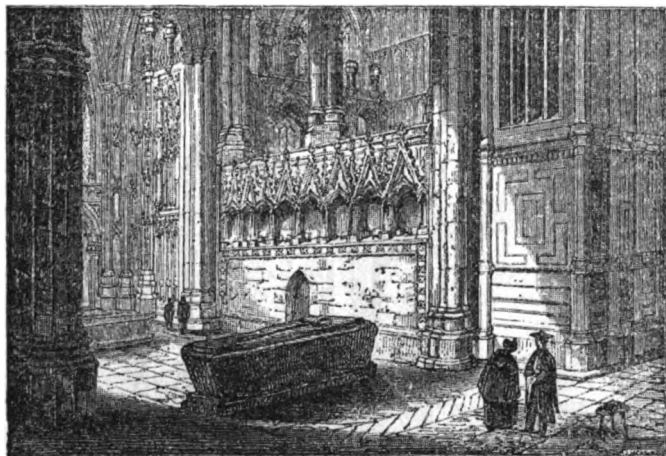
but little to recommend it. The extreme plainness of its architecture, its long unbroken continuity of roof, and its short and squat tower, give it altogether



[Nave of Winchester Cathedral.]

rather a homely and almost heavy air. Placed as it is, besides, in a low situation, were it not for its immense mass, it would scarcely have anything to distinguish it from the undecorated buildings by which it is surrounded. The interior, however, is such as amply to make up for this deficiency of outward display. The vast length of the vista formed by the nave and choir, with the splendid ceiling overhead,—the lines of columns and arches on each hand,—and the large and beautiful window that casts its light down from behind the choir, at the termination of the view,—all contribute to produce upon the spectator, as he enters from the great western door, an overpowering impression of solemnity and magnificence. And when he proceeds to examine the ob-

jects by which he is surrounded more in detail, he discovers everywhere a richness of ornament which it is impossible to look upon without admiration. Not to speak of a profusion of modern monuments, there are placed in different parts of the church various ancient chantries and tombs, exhibiting some of the finest efforts of Gothic sculpture in the world. The chantries, in particular, of William of Wykeham, of Bishop Fox, of Cardinal Beaufort, and of Bishop Waynflete, are structures of the most superb description. Behind the altar also is a stone screen erected by Bishop Fox, a work of wonderful elaboration and beauty. The altar is ornamented by West's picture of the Raising of Lazarus from the Dead, one of the most successful works of that master. Many



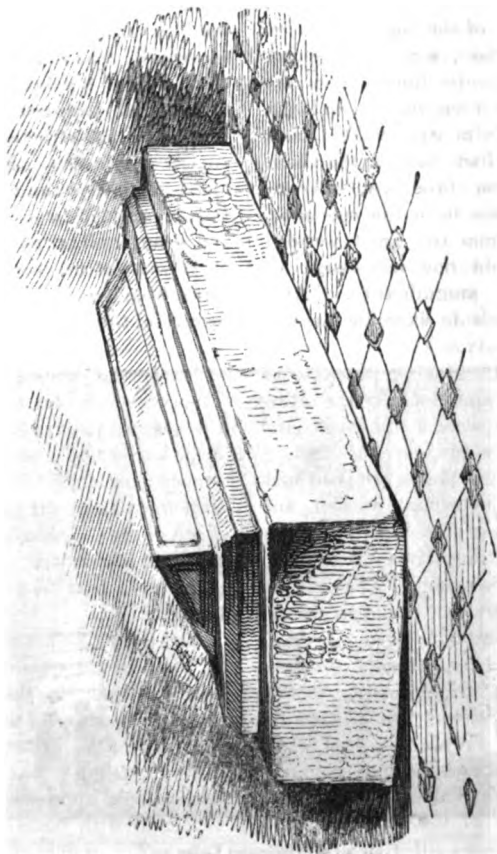
[Interior of Winchester Cathedral.]

venerable relics of antiquity are likewise here preserved, and which are pointed out to visitors.

THE COLLEGE.

Winchester College, which ranks next after the cathedral in point of in-

terest, was founded by William of Wykeham in the latter part of the fourteenth century. An institution for education had existed at Winchester before the Conquest, which was afterwards made a general grammar school for all classes of the people. William of Wykeham



[Tomb of William Rufus.]

was among the last of the scholars who received their early education in "The Great Grammar-school in Winchester." After various changes of fortune, all of them steps of advancement, Wykeham became bishop of Winchester. This happened in the year 1366; and seven years after this, in 1373, he took the grammar-school into his own hands; paid the master's salary out of his own private funds, and also found board and lodging for the scholars in different houses in St. John's parish. He had just endowed at Oxford, the other place of his education, a college for the special benefit of natives of his diocese; and he wished that they should have the means of obtaining that preliminary education which should qualify them for deriving the necessary advantage from the college at Oxford. Having purchased a site of the prior and monks of the cathedral, the works were commenced, and six years afterwards, on the 28th of March, 1393, John Morys, who had been the same day appointed warden, and with him the rest of the society, made their solemn entrance into the college, chanting in procession. The society consisted of a warden and ten priests, who were perpetual fellows; a master and second master, seventy scholars, three chaplains, three inferior clerks, and sixteen choristers: in all 105 on the foundation. Wykeham lived eight years afterwards, and died in September, 1404, at Bishop's Waltham.

The situation of the college, though low, is by no means either damp or un-

healthy; for the current of the river, and the constant exchange of the atmosphere between the downs and the meadows, and also between the upper and lower parts of the valley, keep the air in continual and healthy motion.

The part of the college fronting the street is anything but handsome. An arched gateway leads to the first court or square, or rather oblong, the court end of which is occupied by the warden's house, and the rest is taken up by dormitories, offices, and other common apartments. The tower over the gateway leading inwards from this first quadrangle is rather more ornamented than that towards the street; and the upper part of it is ornamented by three niches, containing statues of the Virgin, the angel Gabriel, and one of Wykeham, in his episcopal robes and mitre, supplicating the blessing of the Virgin. The archway under the tower leads to the second quadrangle, which is not so long, but broader, and therefore better proportioned than the first. The buildings are also in far superior style, and display that classical simplicity and strength which are so conspicuous in every work that Wykeham designed or erected.

The dining hall occupies the left side of the second quadrangle, and is a splendid room, in the ancient Gothic style, measuring 63 feet in length and 33 in breadth. The roof is lofty, and without ceiling; but with the beams and rafters appropriately ornamented, especially with bosses at the intersections. The people of the middle age



[Winchester College, with the Cloisters, entrance to the Library, and the Church.]

never ceiled their dining-halls either with stone or with wood, but left them clear to the roof, and with some means of ventilation for carrying off the fumes of the dinner; and this roof is elevated, and has openings for this purpose, but so contrived as that neither rain nor a current of air shall find entrance. The trusses of the roof are supported on the walls by ornamented corbels, which chiefly represent the heads of kings and bishops. The ascent to this hall is by a flight of steps in the south-western angle of the court; and by the bottom of the stairs there is a lavatory, where the members of the college performed their ablutions as they went to and from their meals, personal cleanliness having been strictly enjoined in all establishments of the kind. The west wing contains the kitchen, which is an ample apartment well suited for its purpose. In an apartment near the kitchen there is a very singular figure in oil painting, usually termed "the trusty servant," and intended perhaps as a standing admonition to the servants of the establishment.

The eastern or right wing of the south side of the second quadrangle is occupied by the chapel, 33 feet wide, the same as the hall; but the length of it is 102 feet. The windows are spacious, and filled with stained glass; and the roof, which is made of oak in imitation of a groined roof of stone, is exactly in the same style as the ceiling, of the same kind which is over the presbytery of Winchester cathedral. The great east window is spacious in its dimen-

sions, and has its mullions very chastely disposed, and being entirely filled with stained glass, it throws a dim but warm and mellowed light over the whole interior. The other windows are also filled with stained glass, exhibiting a numerous collection of kings, bishops, priests, abbots, nuns, &c. The dark colour of the oaken ceiling gives a peculiarly solemn air to the interior of the chapel. The floor was, in former times, paved with ornamental stones inlaid with curious brasses; and the choir stalls were adorned in the ancient style with canopies and spire-work. In 1691 Dr. Nicholas, with singular bad taste, placed modern benches and wainscoting in the room of the stalls, new painted the choir, and had a new altar erected of the Ionic order, so that the roof and walls still appear those of an ancient chapel, while the floor and furniture would better become a modern meeting-house.

The appointment of the choir consists of three chaplains, three clerks, an organist, and sixteen choristers; and the choir service is performed at 8 o'clock A.M. and 5 o'clock P.M. on Sundays and holidays, and 5 o'clock on the vigils of the latter. In vacation-time strangers may attend the chapel; and there are tribunes for females in the places formerly occupied by the side altars.

The cloisters constitute the extreme south-east of the college buildings, and form a square of 132 feet on the sides, and are supposed to have been erected about 1430, by John Fromond, who certainly built the chapel in the centre of

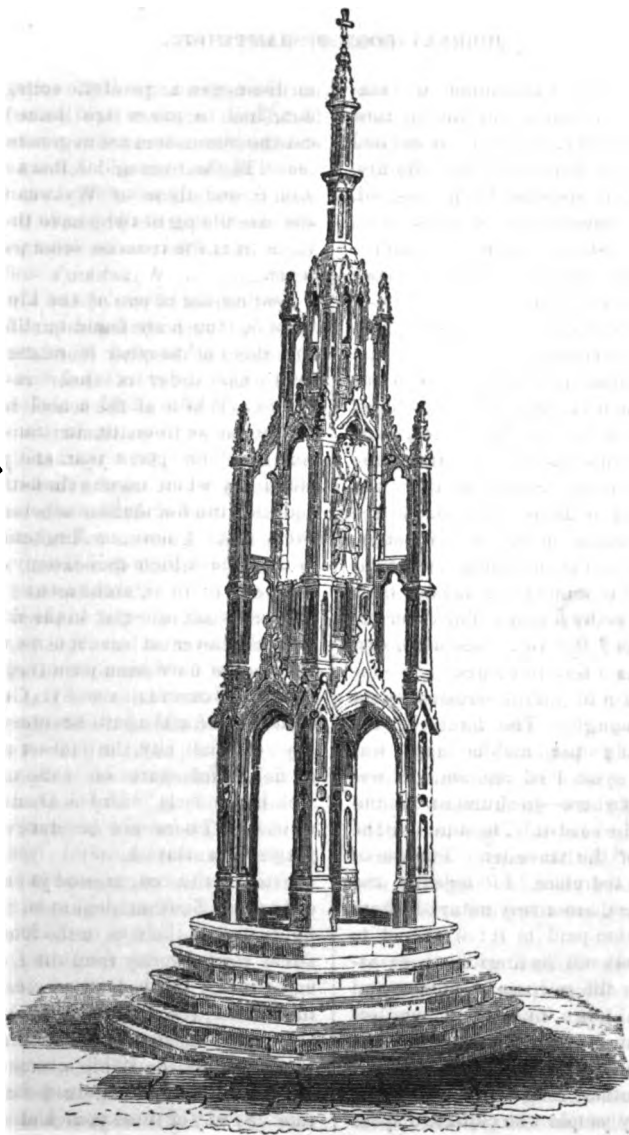
their area. An endowment by the founder for a priest to officiate in this chapel was subverted at the dissolution. The chapel was converted into a library in 1629, and so remains to the present time. The collection of books is considerable, and some of them are valuable: there are also a few articles such as are suitable for a museum.

To the westward of the cloisters and library, and separated from them by an area of moderate dimensions, stands the building which is, in a public point of view, the most interesting of the whole. This is the public school, a plain substantial building, erected in the year 1687, at a cost of 2600*l*., obtained chiefly by a subscription amongst Wykehamists. Over the entrance there is a bronze statue of the founder, modelled, cast, and presented by Caius Gabriel Cibber, father of Colly Cibber. The statue in question has been disfigured by being painted and gilt. This school-room is spacious, being 90 feet long, 36 feet wide, and of proportional height: upon the walls are set forth the admonitions and rules for the government of the scholars, all in Latin. The admonitions are three: "Either learn; or depart; or in the third place be flogged;" and adjoining to these there are appropriate symbols.

Winchester College, with its grammar-school, differs little in its management from Eton. The commoners are not under the control of the warden, but under the immediate superintendence of the head-master, and have a quadrangle and a hall of their own, situated at the

north-western angle of the college. The foundation scholars are limited to 70, and the commoners are in general about 130. The warden and fellows at Winchester, and those of Wykeham's college, are the parties who have the nomination of the foundation scholars. The candidates for Wykeham's college at Oxford consist of two of the kin of the founder, if such are found qualified, and after them of the other foundation scholars in the order of their respective merits. While at the school here the total expense to gentlemen commoners may be about 120*l*. a year, and perhaps the extras, not included in the foundation, may cost the foundation scholars some 30*l*. or 40*l*. There is no limitation as to the age at which foundation scholars may enter the establishment; but if they are not of the kindred of the founder, they must leave it at 18, whereas his kindred may remain till they are 25. After the candidates for Oxford have been selected and all the business is over, there is a ball, and the final act previous to the summer vacation is the chanting of a Latin song, "*Dulce Domum*," to which justice cannot be done in any English translation.

The CITY CROSS, erected in the reign of Henry VI., is an elegant work of art, 43 feet high. It is undoubtedly the finest market-cross remaining in England. It is much to the credit of the then inhabitants of Winchester, that they saved it from destruction in 1770. Some commissioners of pavements had either sold it or bargained for its removal, and the workmen had actually



[Winchester Market Cross.]

assembled in order to commence operations, when a number of the citizens gathered together, and by their spirited remonstrances frustrated the attempt. The period of its erection is assigned, with every appearance of probability, to the period we have mentioned, namely, the fifteenth century. The cross stands in the High-street, nearly in the centre of the city. It is elevated on five stone steps, each of which gradually diminishes in size, and consists of three stories, adorned with open arches, niches, and pinnacles, surmounted with small crosses. It appears to have had four statues originally; but only one now remains, under one of the canopied niches on the second story. Mr. Britton gives the following dimensions:—"It now measures $43\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground to the summit. The lower tier of arches is 7 feet 10 inches high, and the statue is 5 feet 10 inches."

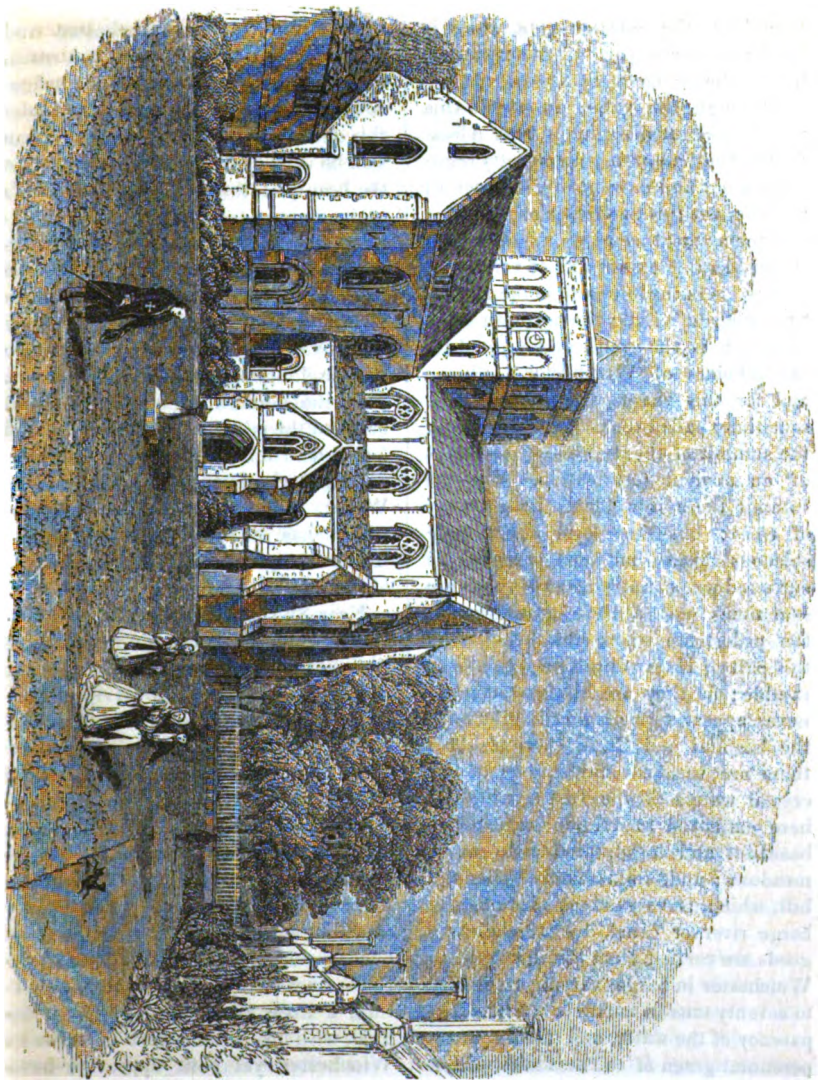
The origin of market-crosses seems obvious enough. The figure of the cross during the middle ages was the grand symbol of religion. It was placed everywhere—in churches, churchyards, by the road-side, to stimulate the devotions of the traveller. The use of the cross, therefore, to indicate the market-place, arose very naturally from the veneration paid to it: it served to excite devotional feelings in those assembled for the purpose of buying and selling. A large number of market-towns were in the immediate neighbourhood and stood on the soil of abbays and other religious foundations. The country people who came to dispose

of their grain, poultry, eggs, butter, &c., had to pay certain tolls on their commodities; these were generally collected at the "cross," or market-place; and frequently advantage was taken of the assembling of the people to address them from the cross on some particular topic.

During the latter days of the Gothic, or rather the ecclesiastical architecture, the idea was adopted of enlarging the area where the cross stood, and arching it over, so as to afford a shelter during inclement weather, or, in the words of Leland, "for poore market folkes to stand dry when rayne cummeth." At the dissolution of the monasteries, almost every market town in England had a cross, some of them exceedingly rich and elaborate in their architectural details. It is a matter of regret to the antiquary and the lover of ancient monuments that so few have been preserved.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. CROSS is situated within the parliamentary boundary of the city, in the centre of a delightful part of the valley of Itchin, and is every way deserving a visit. There are several ways of getting to this hospital from Winchester: the carriage-road may be either the Southampton road from the upper part of the city, or the Kinggate-street road directly from the Cathedral and Close. For pedestrians, especially in summer, the most delightful walk is across the meadows, along that canal or branch of the Itchin which is used in irrigating the western parts of the vale. By any of these routes one is soon

[Hospital of St. Cross.]



brought to the entrance-gate, which is in the northern part of the premises, toward the village of St. Cross.

Although the valley in which this village is situated stretches from Alresford to Southampton, with a pretty regular descent and current of the water all the way, yet this particular portion of it has the appearance of an amphitheatre of considerable extent and of very great beauty. On the left bank of the river is St. Catherine's Hill; the northern slope of which is the grand play-ground for the scholars of Winchester College; and for this reason the hill itself is sometimes called the College Hill. Near the summit of the hill there are traces of an ancient fortification. On the summit there is a lonely little clump of trees; but they form a very conspicuous object from most parts of the surrounding country; and they are sometimes not a little provoking to the pedestrian whom the beauties of this part of Hampshire tempt to a long ramble; for they are always seen, but never appear to be reached. Between the hospital and St. Catherine's Hill there are various ramifications of the crystal waters of the Itchin, which is here employed to irrigate exceedingly beautiful and highly-productive water meadows; and, immediately under the hill, which is very steep, there is the barge river or canal, by which heavy goods are carried from Southampton to Winchester in barges varying from fifty to seventy tons in burthen. The transparency of the water, and the exquisite perennial green of the meadows, which

extend upwards to Winchester, and downwards as far as the eye can reach, with the occasional trees and hedge-rows, all in the richest verdure, render this one of the sweetest spots that can well be imagined. Nor must we forget the beauty of the hill. St. Catherine's is the western termination of the chalk-ridge which extends, with a little interruption, from Butser hill, near the borders of Sussex, to this point on the Itchin, and after being interrupted by that river, rises again on the opposite side, swelling into a considerable mount, from the summit of which Cromwell battered the castle of Winchester, and forced it to surrender after it had long withstood the attempts of Sir William Waller. Like St. Catherine's, this elevation has a clump of stunted trees, which occupies nearly the whole area of the fort.

Near St. Catherine's is the beautiful vale of Chilcombe, containing some of the most productive land in Hampshire, though without the slightest rill of running water. On the top of Twyford down, behind St. Catherine's, there are still vestiges of the great Roman road from *Porta Magna*, modern Porechester, to *Venta Belgarum*, or Winchester. This road was the principal thoroughfare for the Romans from the sea to the interior of this part of England; for though there was a Roman harbour at Clausentum on the Itchin, a little above Southampton, and another at Nutshalling, a little above Redbridge on the Test, with roads from each of these to Winchester, yet both appear to have

been merely river harbours, and not much employed for direct intercourse with the Continent. This Roman road descended the north-eastern shoulder of St. Catherine's Hill, passed the lower part of the vale of Chilcombe, and so reached Winchester, beyond which it was carried along the heights to the strong hill-fort of *Sorbindunum*, or Old Sarum, which, in those days, was perhaps the place of greatest strength in the south-west of England.

The downs surrounding St. Catherine's and Chilcombe have fine slopes, and are covered with delicate and wholesome grass; they rise to a considerable elevation on the south-east and the north; the most lofty being Longwood Warren on the east, and the western termination on the north, St. Giles's Hill, rising very abruptly from the bank of the river at Winchester; which city, in the days of its splendour, extended a considerable way over the summit of the hill, and even on towards Magdalen Hill, upon which there once was an hospital, as there was a chapel on the summit of St. Catherine's. On the north-west, Winchester, with its vast length of Cathedral, the beautiful tower of its college, and the mass of that portion of Charles II.'s intended palace, now converted into a most commodious barrack, form a continuous barrier in this quarter, from which the chalky down trends south and south-east by Cromwell's fort, until it approaches the river in Compton downs, opposite to St. Catherine's and Twyford downs on the other side. From the number of chan-

nels into which the waters of the river are diverted for the purposes of irrigation, and the quantity of the surface which is generally under water, the temperature of this amphitheatre is delightfully fresh in summer; and though it is a little cold in winter, it has no tendency to be aguish, as those who understand the management of water-meadows never allow the waters to stagnate upon them, even for a single day.

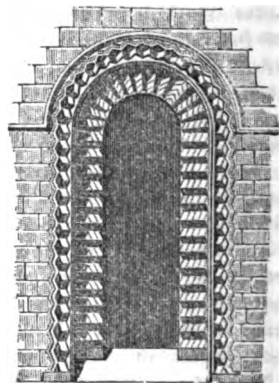
The chapel of St. Cross, which is the finest and most perfect remains of the architectural splendour of Henry de Blois (temp. Stephen), is certainly a magnificent structure, considering that it was originally intended only for thirteen poor men, a master, a steward, four chaplains, thirteen clerks, and seven choristers.

The church is in the cathedral style; that is to say, it consists of a nave and side aisles, with a chancel and transepts, and a huge and massy Norman tower over the intersection, which has originally formed a lantern to throw a dim oblique light upon the high altar; but it is now divided off by floors. The leads of the tower can be ascended without much difficulty; and from them there is a very fine view of the rich meadows around, the South Western Railway, the city, cathedral, and college of Winchester, and the valley of the Itchin, upwards and downwards.

Externally the building is plain, but the different parts of it are admirably proportioned; and the whiteness of its colour renders it a striking object as contrasted with the rich green of the

meadows and the dark foliage of the trees. The towers, and all the eastern turrets, which appear to be in very nearly the same state as they were left by the architects of De Blois, are of squared stone, jointed in the neatest and most durable manner. This chapel or church is, indeed, evidently of the same size, on the same foundation, and by far the greater part of it of the same architecture, which it had from the beginning. The nave and aisles measure 150 feet long from east to west, and the transepts 120 from north to south, thus approaching more nearly to a perfect and regular cross than in most cathedrals. De Blois seems to have been anxious that this, his favourite hospital, should be the monument of his architectural taste—a taste in which, by peculiarity of ornament, he seems to have been anxious to excel all his Norman predecessors. Whether the arched roof over the nave and aisles was part of his original plan we cannot now determine, though it is not likely, as the Normans, down to this age, carried up their walls with a succession of arches to the timbers of the roof. But from the style of the pillars which divide the aisles from the nave, it is highly probable that they are part of the original Norman structure. They are very massy, quite cylindrical, without any taper, and the circumference of the shaft is about equal to its height, thus making them not more than four diameters, including the bases and capitals. The bases are placed upon square plinths, with a supporting claw to each corner, though these parts

are considerably worn, and the capitals in general consist of simple mouldings, though these mouldings are not perfectly uniform in all their pillars. The arches



(Norman Window, St. Cross.)

which they now support have a slight approximation to being pointed; and there are pointed arches of decidedly Norman structure in other parts of the edifice; but it is doubtful whether the present arches which the pillars support are not of more recent date than the pillars themselves.

By some writers these pillars and arches have been considered as Saxon, that is, as constructed after Saxon models; but as the first thing the Normans did, after establishing their possession of England, was to rebuild the cathedrals and churches, it is by no means likely that they would have chosen Saxon models; because, if the models had been satisfactory to the Normans, these people would not have pulled down the original edifices and

erected others in their stead. It is to be borne in mind also, that 70 years had elapsed between the Norman conquest and the building of St. Cross, and that these years had been years of religious building in many parts of the country, during which princes, nobles, and prelates seem to have vied with each other as to who should produce the finest specimen of the building art. In St. Cross, De Blois seems to have collected all the methods of ornamenting which were then known. In the mouldings we find the chevron, the hatchet, the billet, the pellet, the fret, the indented, the clouded, the waved, and every other style of this kind of ornament which can be regarded as truly Norman. The most elaborate workmanship appears to have been bestowed upon the interior of the presbytery; and this consists of circular arches, springing from short pillars, enriched with mouldings and work-basket wire, so that immediately over the pillars they form pointed arches, while in each crown of an arch, which is over the intermediate pillar, there is a triangular space. Some of the pointed arches have been carried out into windows of the same form, and of these there are four over the high altar and four on each side of the presbytery.

In modern times, the revenues of the hospital afford rather a handsome revenue to the master, who is seldom, if ever, resident: the present master is the Earl of Guildford, who is in holy orders. Besides his living, there is something, but we believe not a great deal, to the

chaplain, who resides in the building, and performs service in the chapel, which is attended by sufferance by the inhabitants of the adjoining parish of St. Faith, they having had no church of their own for many years. The brethren are some eleven or twelve in number, and they have comfortable houses with separate gardens, and about 100*l.* a year each. The charity is a perfectly free one, so that a brother may not only have his family along with him, but may follow his trade or profession, if he has one; and we have seen, in one of the lodges, a venerable painter amusing his old age with his pallet and brush, and living cheerfully and happily in the society of his grandchildren. The brethren, when they come abroad, wear black cloaks, with a large silver cross on the left breast, so that they may be known. Cardinal Beaufort, who may be regarded almost as the second founder of St. Cross, intended that his part of the charity at least should go to the support of broken-down gentlemen; and for this reason he wished it to be called "The Alma-house of Noble Poverty." At present, however, we believe that the vacant brotherships are as often filled up by favourite servants in their old age as by broken-down squires. The revenues of the brethren vary considerably from year to year, because a good part of them are derived from fines on leases and on entries.

There is still a small remnant of the hospitable customs of ancient times, and of the manners of an early state of society, and any one who, before the

day is too far spent, knocks at the porter's lodge, gets a horn of ale and a slice of bread. There are not very many way-faring men who avail themselves of this charity; but when a poor traveller does call, the portress gives him a slice of bread worth having. In summer, much both of the bread and ale is given to those who resort to the hospital in order to see its beauties. For this treat the portress expects such gratuity as they please to give her.

The road from Winchester to Gosport, a distance of 24 miles, passes through Twyford, Botley, and Titchfield. About 2 miles south of Winchester the road branches out of the road to Southampton, soon after which it passes through TWYFORD, where there was once a Roman Catholic seminary, at which Pope received part of his education. The church contains a bust by Nollekins, of Dr. Shipley, bishop of St. Asaph. There are several good mansions in the neighbourhood—Twyford House, Twyford Lodge, and Shawford Lodge.

BOTLEY, 11 miles from Winchester, lies in a valley watered by the river Hamble, which is navigable to this place. There are here several large corn-mills, and a considerable trade in flour is carried on. The late Mr. Cobbett had once a farm in this parish.

TITCHFIELD is 6 miles further on the road, and in a pleasant situation, at the head of Southampton water, near the Titchfield river, which is navigable for small vessels: it is about 10 miles from the Southampton station. The church is an interesting structure, and contains

the effigies of Wriothesley, first Earl of Southampton, and his wife and son; also a monument by Chantrey, in memory of Miss Hornby. On the east of the town are some high grounds from which a view may be obtained of the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, and Spithead. The ruins of Titchfield House are near the town. This mansion, which is now almost entirely demolished, was built on the site, and with the materials of the old abbey. Charles I. was twice concealed in this house—first, after his escape from Hampton Court, and, secondly, previously to his surrender and imprisonment at Carisbrook Castle.

FAREHAM is 2 miles west of Titchfield. The road from Southampton to Chichester passes through Fareham, and forms a junction with the present road at Titchfield.

Continuing our present route, we pass through Crofton and Rowner to Gosport, distant 7 miles from Titchfield, and 24 from Winchester.

The road from Winchester to Portsmouth and Chichester is through Bishop's Waltham and Fareham.

After leaving Winchester the road passes over Chilcombe Down to Morestead, and about a mile east of Upham, where Young wrote his 'Night Thoughts.' Thence it proceeds through Bishop's Waltham over Waltham Chase to Wickham, where it joins the London and Gosport road, described at p. 28. At Fareham we leave this road, passing at the foot of Portsdown Hill, and to the left of Portchester Castle, to Cosham, where we join the London and

Portsmouth road about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Portsmouth.

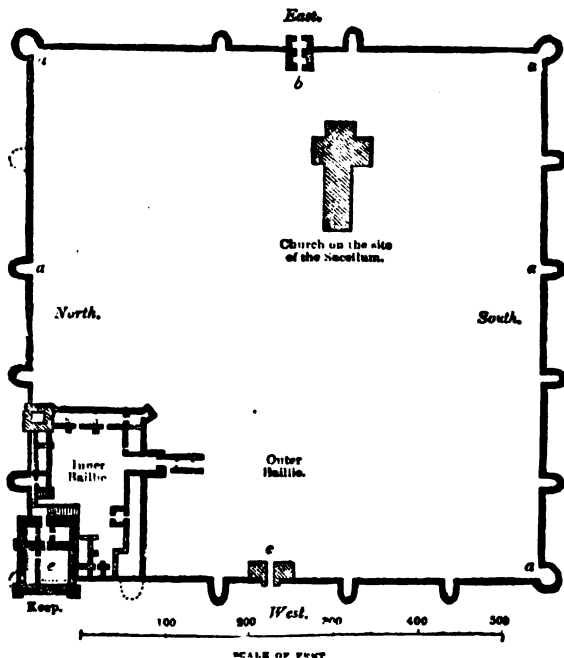
PORCHESTER CASTLE, situated at the head of Portsmouth harbour, is of great antiquity and doubtful origin. The walls contain some portions of Roman architecture, and are probably on the site of one of the stations denominated *Portus*, either *Portus Magnus*, or more probably *Portus Adurni*, mentioned in the *Notitia Imperii*. It is probable that the site has been occupied by a fortress from a period anterior to the Roman conquest; and the present structure exhibits traces of Saxon and Norman, as well as Roman architecture. It is a quadrangle enclosing an area of four or five acres (see plan, p. 96), and is still in sufficient preservation to be used as a place of confinement for prisoners of war. The walls are from eight to twelve feet thick and eighteen feet high, having in many places a passage round them, defended by a parapet. It is enclosed by a ditch (double on the east side), and has eighteen hollow circular towers (*a*), including those of the keep, which are four. A square Saxon keep, which has usurped the place of one of the circular Roman towers forms the north-west angle of the castle, and encloses a quadrangle of 115 feet by 65. There is no sign of a portcullis having been used in this Saxon keep. To this tower Mr. King supposes an addition to have been made by the Normans, who at the same time fortified it after their manner, forming an inner baillie, or ballium, within the outer baillie formed by the large Roman enclosure. This keep was in fact the

citadel of the castle, and was the residence of the chief officer. Porchester Castle is interesting from the examples of Saxon and Norman adaptations and earth building within its walls. The Roman gates (*b, c*), most probably the Decuman and Prætorian, have been filled up with gates constructed after the Norman style of fortifying castellated entrances. The area of Porchester is 620 feet by 610.

The remains of Roman workmanship are chiefly observable in the outer walls. Many Roman coins and medals have been dug up at different times. The parish church of Porchester is within the outer court of the castle: it is a large Norman cross church, of which the south transept has been destroyed. All the doors and windows of the more ancient part have semicircular arches. The church contains a curious font. A priory formerly existed at Porchester, which was removed to Southwick in the reign of Henry II. (12th century.)

From Cosham there is a continuation of the road eastward to Chichester through Havant and Emsworth.

HAVANT is in the liberty of Havant (which comprehends only this parish), near the head of Langston harbour, $66\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London by Petersfield and Horndean, and 8 miles from Portsmouth. The parish comprehends 2560 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 2083, about one-fourth agricultural. The church is in the centre of the town, in the form of a cross, with a tower rising from the intersection: some parts of it are of Norman architecture, but it



[Porchester Castle.]

exhibits various styles. The living is a rectory, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the bishop of Winchester, who has the presentation: it is of the yearly value of 489*l.*, with a glebe-house. There is an Independent congregation. Havant has little trade: some parchment is made, and some of the inhabitants are engaged in fishing and fowling. The market is on Saturday, and there are two yearly fairs.

EMSWORTH, a hamlet of the parish of Warblington, at the head of a channel

which forms a branch of Chichester harbour, is a place of some trade as a port; ship-building and rope-making are carried on. **Emsworth** is on the edge of the county, about 9 miles west of Chichester.

The road from Winchester to Southampton, 12 miles distant, passes through St. Cross, Compton, and Otterbourn. The hospital of St. Cross has already been described. After passing through Compton, we find

HURSLEY LODGE the seat of Sir W.

Heathcote, bart. It is situated about 5 miles from Winchester in a south-western direction. There was formerly a castle or palace here belonging to the bishops of Winchester, erected by Bishop de Blois, and which, so early as the 14th century, was in ruins. A portion of the keep still remains, standing in an area which was surrounded by an immense double and circular entrenchment. We may also add, in connexion with the ancient history of the manor, which is called Merdon, that Kynewulph, king of the West Saxons, was murdered here by Kyenard. But a much greater interest attaches to Hursley than these circumstances excite; we allude to its connexion with the Cromwell family. About 1639 Hursley was purchased from Sir Gerard Napier by Richard Major, Esq., whose daughter and co-heiress Dorothy married, May 1, 1649, Richard, the eldest son of Cromwell. From that time Richard Cromwell resided here, enjoying the amusements the country afforded, of hunting, hawking, &c. After his father's death, his own elevation to the Protectorate, and his deposition, this was the only estate belonging to him that the restored government could not seize; for it belonged in jointure to his wife and their issue. After the death of his wife and eldest son, Richard Cromwell became entitled to a life-interest in the estate at Hursley; he accordingly sent down his daughters to take possession. They did so, and then refused to give it up to him, alleging that he was superannuated, and in lieu they offered him an

annual income. He had then recourse to the law, which decided in his favour. The respect his daughters refused, strangers were proud to pay him: his appearance in court excited great interest, and the Queen (Anne) herself is said to have expressed her approbation of the great deference paid to a man who had been a sovereign. He died at Cheshunt in 1712, aged eighty-five, and was buried with great funeral pomp at Hursley in the chancel of the church, near his deceased lady and children. His daughters, after his death, sold the estate to Sir W. Heathcote for 35,000*l.*, who caused the ancient mansion to be entirely taken down, in consequence, according to tradition, of a vow he had made, that, because it had belonged to the Cromwells, "he would not let one stone or brick remain upon another even to the foundations!" A seal was found on this occasion in one of the walls, which proved to be the seal of the Commonwealth, and, in the opinion of Ver-tue, the eminent artist, the very one taken away by Cromwell from the house of parliament under such extraordinary circumstances. The demolition being completed, Sir William erected the present building, which is of brick. The front has a somewhat grand appearance, with its lofty pilasters of stone rising from the basement story, and surmounted by a pediment. The entrance is by a flight of steps on each side. The lawn in front is of considerable extent, and ornamented with many fine old trees and shrubs. The park is well stocked with deer, and game of every kind.

The hills in the neighbourhood of Otterbourn, through which the road passes, command fine views of Southampton water, the Solent sea, and the Isle of Wight. At Stoneham, on the right, is a mansion and extensive park. Admiral Hawke, one of the naval heroes of the reign of George II., was buried in the church, which is situated within the park. South Stoneham park and village are on the left, somewhat nearer Southampton. Passing Portswood House and Belle Vue on the left, and Bannister Lodge and Bevis Mount on the opposite side of the road, we quickly reach Southampton, a distance of 12 miles from Winchester.

The road from Winchester to Poole passes through Romsey and Ringwood: the latter place is noticed in Chapter IX.

ROMSEY is 10 miles south-west of the Winchester station, and 8 miles north-north-west of the station at Southampton. The high road from London and Winchester to Poole, through Ringwood, and from Southampton to Salisbury, passes through the town. The distance from London by the road is 73 miles. Romsey is situated in a rich agricultural district, upon the left bank of the Anton or Test, over which is a bridge, and close to the Andover canal. The population had increased in the twenty years between 1811 and 1831, although during this period the last remains of its lingering woollen manufacture had gone, and the manufacture of paper, which was once considerable, became very greatly reduced. The

only manufactures that it can now be said to have are those of parchment and other dressed skins; and the chief trade, besides the vending of these, is wool-stapling. A good deal of business is done in the purchase of corn, and in the flour and malt trade. The whole parish is very extensive, comprehending 9310 acres, with a population of 5432, about one-fourth agricultural; but the borough comprehends only that part of the parish known as "Romsey Infra," having an extent of 380 acres, and a population of 2046. There are dissenting meeting-houses, a town-hall, an "audit-house," supported on piers, with an open space below for the market-people, a small borough gaol, and some almshouses. The market is on Thursday, formerly on Saturday, and there are three yearly fairs. By the Municipal Reform Act, the council of the borough consists of a mayor, four aldermen, and twelve councillors. The living is a vicarage, in the diocese and archdeaconry of Winchester, of the yearly value of 365*l*. There were in the parish in 1835 twelve infant or dame-schools, with 136 children, twenty day-schools, with about 650 children, and seven Sunday-schools, with about 700 children. Of the day-schools one is a free-school, another is a national-school united with an old endowed free-school, and a third is wholly supported by Lord Palmerston and family.

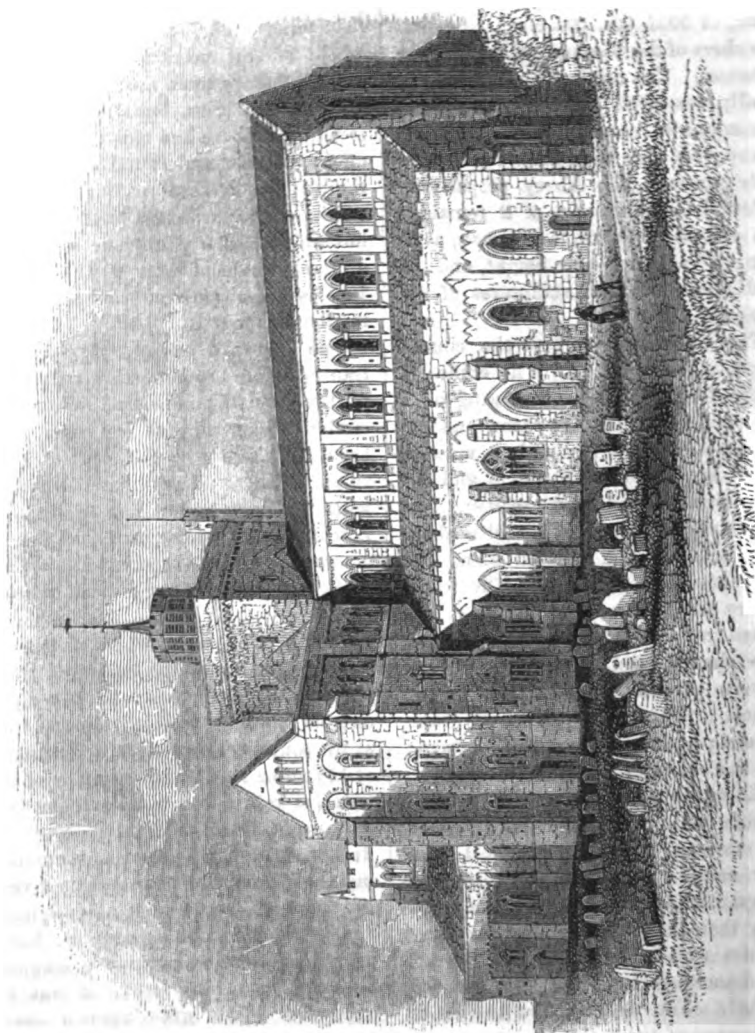
The church formerly belonged to an abbey founded in the reign of Edward the Elder, and occupied by Benedictine nuns: the abbey was valued at the

dissolution at 528*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* per annum gross, or 393*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* clear. Several members of the Saxon royal family were abbesses. The original buildings were totally destroyed by the Danes, and subsequently rebuilt. It is impossible to say what may have been the style of architecture in the Abbey, properly so called, because no part of it remains; the church, however, is Norman, as is evinced by its majestic height, and the bold mouldings and sculptures of the capitals.

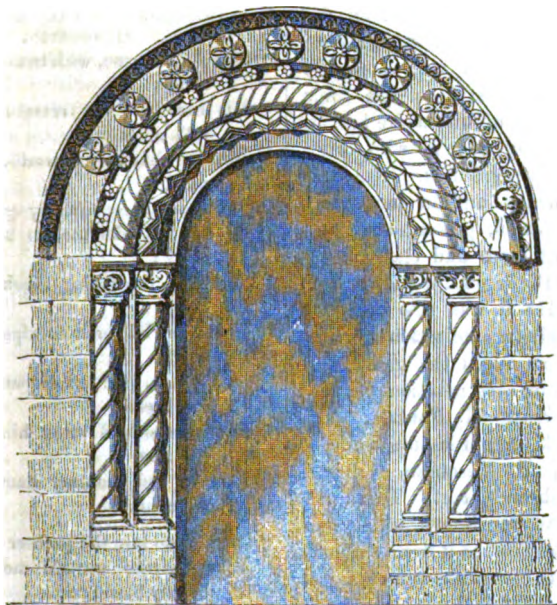
The situation on which the church stands is commanding. The edifice is in the form of a cross, consisting of a nave and chancel as the stem, and two transepts as the arms, with a massive tower supported upon pillars and circular arches, over the intersection. The length of the nave and chancel is about 240 feet, and the breadth along the transepts more than 120. The whole is very lofty, even in proportion to the extent of the horizontal dimensions. The chancel and transepts, with the eastern part of the nave, are in the richest style of purely Norman architecture; and the tower is also Norman; but the western part is of a mixed style, inclining to what is usually termed Gothic, with pointed windows divided by mullions, and the great west window consists of three lancet-headed compartments, the central one more lofty than the others, so that they harmonise with a large pointed arch of blind masonry in which they are included. The internal ornaments on the arches of the most ancient part are,

generally speaking, zigzags in very bold relief; and the architecture of the whole of this portion is in very fine taste. Though more modern, the western part is inferior, but still it is handsome. The nave has side aisles parted off by pillars; and round the chancel there is an external passage of some width, inferior in height to the interior, but with singularly fantastic sculptures on the capitals of some of the pillars. In this place some of the best monuments are situated.

The eastward angles, between the transepts and the chancel, are filled up by two buildings enclosed by arcs of circles, which may at one time have been the chapels or chantries of local saints whose names have perished with the record; but one of them is now used as a vestry, and the other is a sort of grammar-school, while a Sunday-school is held in a divided portion on the west end of the south aisle of the nave. The tower, which surmounts the intersection of the body and transepts of the church is accessible by a circular staircase enclosed in the wall at the south-western angle, and consists of 151 stone steps. Near the top of the tower, or rather in a wooden belfry over it, there is a peal of eight bells of the finest tone; and the lead roof surrounding this belfry, and enclosed by a very low parapet, commands a delightful view of the surrounding country. Some years ago there was rather a singular curiosity upon this roof; it was an apple-tree which grew upon a small portion of mould there, and blossomed



[Romsey Abbey Church.]



[Norman Doorway, Romsey Abbey Church.]

and ripened its fruit every year, in the same perfection as if it had been in an orchard.

The sculptures are few, with the exception of the grotesque figures on the capitals of some of the pillars and along the mouldings under the eaves of the nave, together with a very fine representation of the Crucifixion upon the western wall of the south transept, which had once been under the cloisters, in the passage of the nuns from their apartments to a highly ornamented doorway near the angle where this transept joins the south aisle of the

nave. Among the monuments, the most notable is that of Sir William Petty, a native of Romsey, ancestor of the Marquis of Lansdowne: it is a rude stone in the pavement without the chancel, and near the door of the vestry; and the only inscription on it is, "Here lyes Sir William Petty."

Tatchbury Mount, near Romsey, affords a fine view of Southampton Water.

BROADLANDS, the seat of Viscount Palmerston, is situated in an extensive park which immediately joins the town of Romsey, and through which flows

the river Test. The mansion on the eastern side of the river presents an elegant front, adorned with a portico built in the purest style of the Ionic order. It is built of fine white bricks, from a design by Brown, who originally laid out the grounds. The interior arrangements, and in fact every part of the mansion, present evidences of the excellent taste and classical acquirements of the late Lord Palmerston, its builder. He it was who collected together the valuable collection of paintings which now adorn the walls; and among which we may mention pictures by Salvator Rosa, N. Poussin, Reynolds, Vandyck, Domenichino, Rubens, Wouvermans, P. Veronese, Caracci, Claude, Rembrandt, &c. There are also some fine specimens of ancient statuary. The Test, as it flows through the grounds, is both wide and clear: it abounds with trout, and when it reaches Romsey is crossed by a bridge, which forms a pleasing object as seen from the park. The dairy, standing at the end of the shady walk, is a very picturesque little building, with its ornamental statues and busts, and its surrounding willows hanging their pendant branches over the water. As an evidence of the accomplishments of the noble lord we have before spoken of, as well as for its intrinsic merit, we may here quote the inscription written by him for his deceased lady, and placed in Romsey church:—

“ TO THE MEMORY OF FRANCES, VISCONTRESS
PALMERSTON.

“ Whoe’er, like me, with trembling anguish
brings
His heart’s whole treasure to fair Bristol’s springs;
Whoe’er, like me, to worth, distress, and
pain,
Shall court these salutary springs in vain;
Condemn’d, like me, to hear the faint
reply;
To mark the fading cheek, the sinking
eye;
From the chill brow to wipe the damp of
death,
And watch, in dumb despair, the short’n-
ing breath:
If chance should bring him to this art-
less line,
Let the sad mourner know his pangs
were mine.

“ Ordain’d to lose the partner of my breast,
Whose virtue warm’d me, and whose
beauty blest;
Fram’d every tie that binds the heart to
prove,
Her duty friendship, and her friendship
love.
But yet rememb’ring that the parting
sigh
Appoints the just to slumber—not to die;
The starting tear I check’d—I kiss the
rod,
And not to earth resign her, but to God.”

There is a road from Winchester to Salisbury through Stockbridge. On the left of Sparsholt, near which the road passes, are the traces of an ancient entrenchment. The Roman road from Winchester to Old Sarum passes south of this spot.

STOCKBRIDGE, which the traveller from London may reach either by the Andover road station, or the Winchester station, is 12 miles from the latter, and 9 miles from the former station. The town is situated on the high road from Winchester to Salisbury: a road from Basingstoke joins this road at the eastern entrance to the town, and connects it with the high road to London, 66½ miles distant. There is a road to Southampton through Romsey; to Poole through Romsey and Ringwood; also one to Lymington through Romsey.

Stockbridge is situated on the left bank of the Anton or Test. It is a borough and market-town. The parish and borough limits coincide, and comprehend 1220 acres; the population in 1831 was 851, about one-third agricultural. The town consists of one street, in which are seven bridges: it has little trade, but is chiefly supported by being a considerable thoroughfare. There are races in the neighbourhood. The market is on Thursday, and there is a yearly fair (there were formerly three fairs), one of the largest in the county for lambs. Stockbridge returned two members to parliament up to the passing of the Reform Act, by which it was disfranchised: it is a borough by prescription; the town-hall is a neat building. The living is a chapelry, in the diocese and archdeaconry of Winchester, annexed to the vicarage of King's Sombourn, to which the chapelry of Little Sombourn is also annexed; their joint yearly value is 696*l*. with a glebe-house. There were

in Stockbridge in 1833 five day-schools with 99 children, and two Sunday-schools with 60 children.

Six miles west of Stockbridge the road from Winchester to Salisbury forms an angle at Lobcombe Corner with the road from Andover to Salisbury, and here it passes into Wiltshire. The remains of a Roman station, supposed to have been the Bridge of Antoninus, were observed by Mr. Gale at Broughton, on the left of the former road.

There is another road from Winchester to Salisbury through Hursley and Romsey.

The road from Winchester to Petersfield, and into Sussex, passes over Longwood Warren, through Hinton Ampner, Bramdean, Langridge, and over Strood Common; the distance from Winchester to Petersfield being 18 miles. About three miles east of Bramdean this road crosses the London and Gosport road.

At **BRAMDEAN** are the remains of one of the palaces of the Bishops of Winchester.

BROOKWOOD PARK, the seat of William Greenwood, Esq., is delightfully situated between Bramdean and the London and Gosport road. Since it was purchased from the Earl of Malmsbury by the present possessor, it has been extensively repaired and improved both within and without. It enjoys the advantages of an elevated site, and of beautiful prospects over the surrounding country, which is a fine sporting district: Brookwood is in the very centre

of the Hampshire and Hambledon hunts. The house is a handsome modern-looking building, consisting of a centre and two wings. On the ground floor in the interior is a noble and well-arranged suite of rooms, comprising a large and lofty dining-room, with conservatory adjoining; two drawing-rooms, library, and an excellent billiard-room. There are some valuable pictures by

Cuyp, Jansen, Teniers, Canaletti, Reynolds, Hogarth, Morland, &c.

EAST MEON is on the left of the road. The church is a large and interesting structure, with a Norman tower. The font resembles that in Winchester Cathedral, and is said to have been presented by Bishop Walkelyn, founder of the church, who died in 1098.

CHAPTER VIII.

SOUTHAMPTON STATION.

THIS Station is the southern terminus of the South-Western Railway, and is $76\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the London end of the line commencing at Nine Elms, near Vauxhall. Southampton is 75 miles west south-west of London by the mail-coach road from London to Poole, through Alton and Alresford. Southampton, from its situation, is a less important centre of communication than Winchester, as far as the turnpike-roads are concerned; but the Railway has necessarily placed it in connexion with many places with which it had formerly but little intercourse, and coaches are established on new lines to bring passengers to this station as the most speedy means of journeying to and from London. The following places are in this manner immediately connected with the Southampton Station; and the second column shows the time now occupied in travelling from each to London by the road and railway:—

<i>In Hampshire.</i>	Distance to the Railway.	Time occupied in performing the journey to London.	
	Miles.	Hrs.	Min.
„ Ringwood . .	20	5	24
„ Christchurch .	28	6	19
„ Lymington . .	16	4	59
„ Cowes . . .	16	4	59
„ Titchfield . .	9	4	12
„ Fareham . .	13	4	39
„ Gosport . . .	17	5	6
„ Portsmouth .	18	5	12

In other Counties.

	Miles.	Hrs.	Min.
„ Bridport . .	71	11	6
„ Weymouth . .	64	10	19
„ Dorchester . .	56	9	25
„ Wareham . .	44	7	39
„ Poole . . .	36	7	12
„ Wimborne . .	30	6	32

The town of SOUTHAMPTON is built on an elevated gravelly piece of ground, lying at the head or northern extremity of the bay, called the Southampton Water, being flanked on the one side by the river Itchin, and on the other by the Test or Anton, which fall severally into the north-east and the north-west corners of the bay. Its situation, overlooking the sea to the south, and a very rich country, abounding in water and woodland scenery in all other directions, is one of great beauty. The Southampton Water is supposed to be the Antonia of Tacitus, and Bittern to have been the Roman station Clausentum. The most conspicuous object which the town presents, when viewed from a distance, is a modern building, which has been erected over the site of the keep of the old castle. The town, which no doubt took its origin from the castle, appears to have sprung up in the Saxon times. The earliest mention of it is in the Saxon Chronicle, under the year 873. Some three or four centuries ago it was

a place of great opulence and importance, sustained by an active trade, principally in wine, with France and Portugal. At the commencement of the present century its commercial consequence had much decayed; but its prosperity has been for some time reviving, and it has again become a flourishing town, containing, according to the last census, not much under twenty thousand inhabitants: in the twenty years between 1811 and 1831 the population more than doubled. The South-Western Railway has already proved of great benefit to the local interests of the town, and a Dock Company, which was incorporated in 1836, promises to realise important commercial advantages, not only to the town but to other parts of the country. Southampton possesses perhaps the finest harbour for merchantmen on the southern coast, and the formation of docks will add very much to its value and importance. The project of forming docks was conceived under the impression that the railway system would be so far carried out, as to connect the great trading and manufacturing stations of the midland and northern counties with the southern coast, when the advantages as a port of shipment presented by Southampton in preference to London would be sufficiently apparent. It was also imagined that Southampton being brought by means of its railway within three hours and a half (it is thus we must henceforth speak of distances,) of the Metropolis, might become, in some degree, the port of London for ships arriving from and sailing to the west-

ward. Vast as is the consumption of foreign and colonial goods in London, by far the greater part of those goods which now ascend the Thames are distributed afterwards to various, and frequently distant, parts of the country. The anticipated formation of railway lines would allow of this distribution being better made in many cases from Southampton, and it is agreed on all hands that the advantage to the owners of ships from terminating their voyage at Southampton, rather than proceeding through the Straits of Dover to the Thames, would be exceedingly great. The expense, both in time and in money, that would thus be saved would be so much gain to the country at large.*

So long ago as 1379 a Genoese merchant undertook to render Southampton a great shipping port, but the projector is said to have been assassinated. The proposed docks are intended to receive vessels of the largest class and steam-vessels. The facilities of travelling to London by the Railway have lately induced the owners of one of the great Trans-Atlantic steam ships to select Southampton as a station instead of Portsmouth. The passage up Channel from off Cowes to London by steam-boat requires an average of 28 hours, but by means of the Railway the journey may be accomplished in from 4 to 5 hours. These facilities have also rendered Southampton the most convenient port for steam-boats for Plymouth, Guernsey, Jersey, St. Malo,

* Companion to British Almanac for 1838.

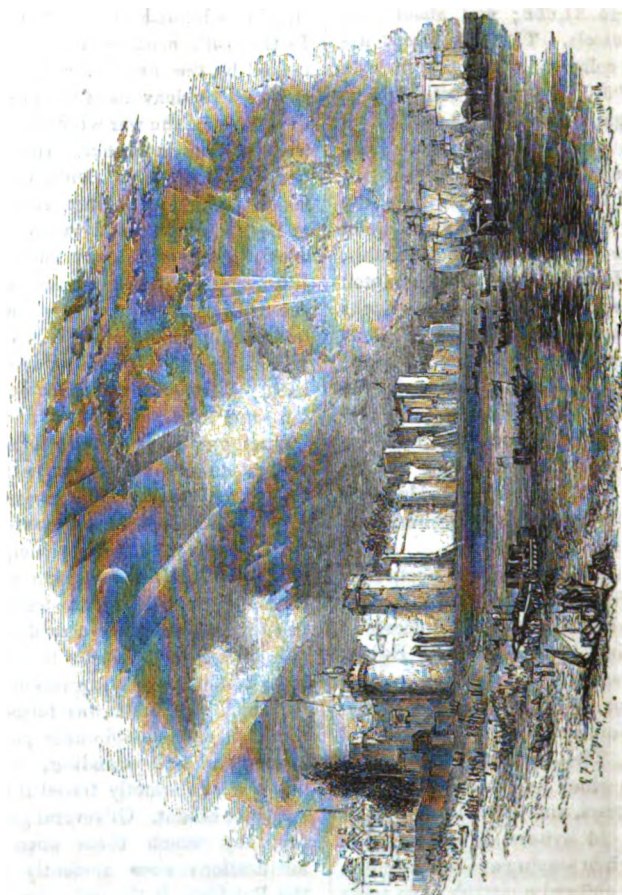
Granville and Havre. The number of foreign ships entering the port of Southampton yearly is about 290, average tonnage 31,000; and about 1500 coasting vessels. The amount of Customs' duty collected at the port in 1839 was £58,296. The trade with France and Portugal is considerable; also with the Baltic ports and Canada. The coasting trade is still more active; corn is imported from Wales, coals from the Tyne, and there is a brisk commercial interchange with the Channel Islands. Between London and Southampton there are six regular trading smacks and schooners, each of about 100 tons register, making upon an average two trips per week. Cowes is the station of the Royal Yacht Club; and there are several yards for building coasting vessels, yachts and steamboats. In 1837 a floating bridge was established between the opposite shores of the Itchin.

During the ninth and tenth centuries the Danes frequently ravaged Southampton, but when Canute had succeeded in displacing the posterity of Egbert from the sovereignty of England, he reigned for twenty years in peace, making Southampton his occasional residence. The beautiful incident of the rebuke which he gave to the flattery of his courtiers, and which is mentioned by all our old writers, is said to have occurred while staying at Southampton. The town enjoyed a considerable trade with France during the reign of the Norman kings, and down to the end of the 16th century. The merchants of

London were so jealous of its commercial importance that they procured an order directing that wine from the Canaries should be landed only in the Thames. In the 14th century, it was twice attacked by the French, and it was the frequent rendezvous of the fleets carrying troops for the war which the English were waging in France. In the early part of the following century the army which fought at Agincourt embarked at Southampton; and two years afterwards a second army destined for France encamped near the town. In the 16th century the town was visited by the Emperor Charles V., by Edward VI., Philip of Spain, and Queen Elizabeth. Charles I. resided at Southampton some time.

Southampton was once fortified and defended by double ditches, battlements, and watch-towers. The curious relic of ancient architecture represented in the cut (p. 109) crosses the principal street of the town of Southampton, called the High-street, or English-street, at the point where the town is considered to terminate and the suburbs to commence. It is, in fact, one of the gates of the wall by which the town was formerly surrounded, and considerable portions of which are still standing, while the line can be distinctly traced throughout its whole extent. Of several gates, however, by which these encompassing fortifications were anciently adorned, the Bar Gate is the only one that now remains.

Among the Saxons, what we now call a gate was commonly called a bar, the



[Southampton, from an Old Print.]



[The Bar Gate, Southampton.]

term *gate* being used to describe the street or road itself, as it still is in Scotland. Of the old application of the word *bar* we have instances in *Temple Bar*, *Holborn Bar*, and *Smithfield Bar*, or *Bars*, in London. The Bar-gate, the name by which the structure at Southampton is commonly known, seems to be a corruption which had arisen from the continued use of the term *bar*, after its original meaning had been forgotten.

High-street, or English-street, runs nearly due south and north, and is in all about three-quarters of a mile in length, of which two-thirds are below or to the south of the Bar Gate. The remaining portion is called High-street above Bar. Leland the antiquary, in the middle of the sixteenth century, describes this as one of the fairest streets in England; and its length,

straightness, and spaciousness, together with the character of its buildings, still entitle it to that encomium. But its proudest ornament is the imposing structure already noticed. The most ancient part of the Bar Gate consists of a massive semicircular arch, which is undoubtedly to be referred to the early Norman, if not to the Saxon times. Beyond this, on the north side, has been subsequently erected a high and pointed arch, richly adorned with mouldings. The whole of this front now forms a sort of semi-octagon (or the half of an eight-sided figure), terminated at each extremity by a semicircular tower. Each of these towers has been perforated in modern times by a doorway crossing the foot-path at the side of the street; but anciently they seem to have had lateral entrances

(which are now built up) from under the arch. The south front, or that which looks to the town, appears to be in a more modern style of architecture than any other part of the gate. The structure indeed has undergone alterations at different times in almost every part; and some of the decorations which have been added to it are far from being in the best taste. The ancient battlements, however, by which the whole is crowned, have escaped such innovation and disfigurement; and their aspect is remarkably majestic and venerable. The part of the building immediately over the arch is occupied by the town-hall, which is a room 52 feet in length by 21 in breadth; and over this are spacious leads, from which there is an extensive view of the town and the surrounding country.

Among other decorations on the north front of the gate are two figures, said by tradition to represent the famous hero of romance, Sir Bevis of Hampton, and the giant Ascapard, whom he slew in single combat. The reader may recollect an allusion to Ascapard, or Ascabart, as he is there called, in the first canto of Scott's *Lady of the Lake*, which the author has illustrated by a quotation from an ancient manuscript copy of the 'Romance of Sir Bevis.' The following is the modernised version of the same passage, which is given by Ellis in his 'Specimens of the Early Romances':—

"This giant was mighty and strong,
And full thirty feet was long.
He was bristled like a sow;
A foot he had between each brow;

His lips were great and hung aside;
His eyen were hollow, his mouth was wide;
Lothly he was to look on than,
And liker a devil than a man:
His staff was a young oak,—
Hard and heavy was his stroke."

Of Sir Bevis there are other memorials at Southampton besides the figure on the Bar Gate, especially an artificial elevation called Bevis Mount, which seems anciently to have been fortified. The castle stood on the western side of the town, and some remains exist of a large building which is believed to have been the palace of the Saxon and Danish kings.

The town and adjacent district were erected into a county at a remote period, and the boundaries, which are marked with great accuracy, were fixed so early as the reign of King John. The shape of this district is that of an irregular triangle, one side of which is formed by the river Anton and the other by the Itchin, the land boundary being the base of the triangle. Under the Municipal Reform Act, Southampton is divided into five wards, and governed by a mayor, ten aldermen, and thirty councillors. The mayor has an extensive maritime jurisdiction. The recorder tries offenders at the local quarter sessions, except in capital cases; and the same officer presides over the local court for the recovery of small debts. The five parishes were united for the administration of the poor law in 1776. A police has been established on the model of the metropolitan police force.

Before the passing of the Reform Act, the inhabitants paying scot and lot had the right of voting for the two members returned to parliament, and the number of electors was about 1700. In 1831, out of 3502 houses in the town and county, 1667 were of the annual value of 10*l.* and upwards. Many large and well-built houses have been erected within the last ten years. The principal streets are spacious and well-paved. The number of streets is about forty.

Among the most important public buildings and institutions are the Market House, in the High-street, and which comprises the Audit House, where the business of the corporation is transacted; the Custom House, situated upon the quay; five parish churches, namely, St. Michael's, All Saints, Holy Rood, St. Lawrence, and St. Mary's. St. Paul's, built in 1829, in the Gothic style, is a proprietary chapel. A chapel for Roman Catholics was erected in 1830; and the Independents, Baptists, Wesleyan Methodists, Society of Friends, Primitive Methodists, and followers of the late Mr. Irving, have places of worship. The Jewish worship is performed in a private house, and a place of worship has been established for the seamen frequenting the port. Trinity Chapel is connected with a female penitentiary. The free grammar-school in Bugle-street was founded by Edward VI. Since the boys in the Royal Military Asylum have been transferred to Chelsea, the building which they occupied has been appropriated for the girls belonging to the same

institution, who are chiefly orphans of soldiers. The National School was established about the close of the last century, and the Royal British School, on the Lancasterian system, was enlarged in 1837, and is capable of accommodating above 300 scholars. There are several infant schools, one of them large enough for several hundred children. There is a school for navigation, founded in 1760 by Alderman Taunton. St. John's Hospital was founded in 1671 for instructing six boys in the woollen trade: the institution has been transferred by the corporation to the guardians of the poor. An orphan-school was established in 1837. The County Female Penitentiary was established in 1828 on the plan of the Magdalen Hospital in London, and is capable of receiving thirty females. The medical charities are the Dispensary, the South Hants Infirmary, a lying-in charity, and there is a society for the rescue and recovery of drowned persons. Nearly all the great institutions of the present age for circulating the Bible, religious books and tracts, and for promoting missions, have branches in Southampton.

No public library has as yet been established in Southampton, though many towns less than one-half its size, and much less wealthy, have enjoyed the advantages of such an institution for above half a century. The Literary and Scientific Institution was established in 1827, and a museum is forming by the members. The Mechanics' Institution dates its existence from 1830. There

has been an annual exhibition of paintings, statuary, and drawings, since 1827. The theatre is opened annually for several months.

The pier, erected in 1832, is a favourite promenade; and as a proof of the increasing prosperity of the town and the effect of the railway in bringing visitors to it, we may mention that the tolls at the pier let for 700*l.* more in 1840 than in the previous year. Concerts and balls are held at the Long Rooms, erected in 1749, and at the Victoria Rooms, built in 1833. The grounds attached to the latter afford pleasing views of the river, and are much resorted to as a lounge. A regatta and races take place annually in the bathing season. Bathing-machines, swimming-baths, and all other means of ablution applicable either to the in-

valid or the robust, are provided for those who resort to Southampton as a watering-place.

Letters are despatched to and from London by the railway twice a-day. The night mail from London reaches Southampton at forty minutes past eleven.

The road from Southampton to Gosport passes through Bursledon and Titchfield. At a distance of about 3 miles from Southampton are the ruins of Netley Abbey.

NETLEY (or Nettle) Abbey has long been celebrated as one of the most picturesque ruins in England. The proper name of the place appears, as Leland has noted it in his *Collectanea* (vol. i. p. 69), to be *Letteley*, which has been Latinised into *de Læto Loco* (pleasant place), if it be not, as has been most



[Ruins of Netley Abbey.]

commonly supposed, a corruption of this Latin designation. The founder of Netley Abbey is stated by Leland to have been Peter Roche, Bishop of Winchester, who died in 1238. The monks of Netley Abbey belonged to the severe order of the Cisterrians, and were originally brought from the neighbouring house of Beaulieu. Hardly anything has been collected with regard to the establishment for the first 300 years after its foundation, except the names of a few of the abbots. At the dissolution it consisted of an abbot and twelve monks, and its net revenue was returned at only about 100%. It appears, indeed, to have been always a humble and obscure establishment. Nor did the riches of the good monks consist in their library. Leland found them possessed of only one book, which was a copy of Cicero's Treatise on Rhetoric. In 1537 the place was granted by the king to Sir William Paulet, afterwards the celebrated Marquis of Winchester. It has since been successively in the possession of various other families.

Netley Abbey is now a complete ruin, nothing remaining except a part of the bare walls. It stands on the declivity of a gentle elevation, which rises from the bank of the Southampton Water. The walk to it from the town of Southampton, of about 3 miles in length, is one of enchanting beauty, the surrounding landscape being rich in all the charms of water and woodland scenery. The abbey itself is so embosomed among foliage,—partly that of the oaks and other trees which rise in thick clumps

around it, and some of which, springing up from the midst of the roofless walls, spread their waving branches over them, and partly that of the luxuriant ivy which clothes a great part of the grey stone in green,—that scarcely a fragment of it is visible till the visitor has got close beside it. The site of the ruin, however, is one of considerable extent. Originally the buildings seem to have formed a quadrangular court or square; but scarcely anything more is now to be seen, except the remains of the church or chapel which occupied one of the sides. It appears to have been about 200 feet in length by 60 in breadth, and to have been crossed at the centre by a transept of 120 feet long. The walls can still be distinctly traced throughout the whole of this extent, except in the northern portion of the transept. The roof, however, as we have said, no longer exists, having fallen in about forty years ago. Its fragments, many of them sculptured with armorial bearings and other devices, lie scattered in heaps over the floor. Many broken columns still remain; and there are also windows in different portions of the wall, the ornamental parts of which are more or less defaced, but which still retain enough of their original character to show that the building must have been one of no common architectural beauty. The east end is the most entire, and the great window here is of elegant proportions and elaborately finished. Besides the church, various other portions of the abbey, such as the kitchen, the refec-

tory, &c., are usually pointed out to strangers; but the conjectures by which these apartments are identified must be considered as of very doubtful authority. The whole place appears to have been surrounded by a moat, of which traces are still discernible; and two large ponds still remain at a short distance from the buildings, which no doubt used to supply fish to the pious inmates. Their retired and undisturbed waters now present an aspect of solitude which is extremely beautiful, overhung as they are by trees and underwood. About 200 feet distance from the west end of the church, and nearer the water, is a small building called Netley Castle or Fort, which was erected by Henry VIII.

But the chief attraction of Netley Abbey must be understood to consist, not so much in any architectural magnificence of which it has to boast, as in the singular loveliness of the spot, and in the feelings inspired by the overthrown and desolate state of the seat of ancient piety. No mind having any imagination, or feeling for the picturesque and the poetical, but must deeply feel the effect of its lonely and mournful, yet exquisitely beautiful seclusion. It has accordingly been the theme of many verses, among which an elegy, written by Mr. George Keate, the author of the *Account of the Pelew Islands* and *Prince Le Boo*, was at one time much admired. A living poet, the Rev. Mr. Bowles, has also addressed the ruin in some lines of considerable tenderness, which we shall subjoin:—

" Fallen pile! I ask not what has been thy fate;
But when the weak winds, wafted from the main,
Through each lone arch, like spirits that complain,
Come hollow to my ear, I meditate
On this world's passing pageant, and the lot
Of those who once might proudly, in their prime,
Have stood with giant port; till, bowed by time
Or injury, their ancient boast forgot,
They might have sunk like thee; though thus forlorn,
They lift their heads, with venerable hairs
Besprent, majestic yet, and as in scorn
Of mortal vanities and short-lived cares;
E'en so dost thou, lifting thy forehead grey,
Smile at the tempest and time's sweeping sway."

The windings of the Hamble river and the wooded hills which gently recede from its margin, render the road near Bursledon very pleasing. Ships of war were built at this small place in the reign of William III. Passing through the village of Houghton and over the common, we reach Titchfield, in a valley watered by a stream called the Alre. The road next passes through Rowner and Crofton to Gosport.

A road from the Southampton and Gosport road branches off at Titchfield, and runs parallel to the coast to Chichester, passing through Fareham, along the foot of Portsdown Hill, through Wimpering, Cosham, Havant, and Emsworth; crossing the London and

Gosport road at Fareham, and the London and Portsmouth road at Cosham. The places through which the road passes have already been noticed.

The road from Southampton to Salisbury divides into two branches about a mile from Southampton, and again unites after passing out of the county. One branch passes through Romsey, and the other through Rumbridge. Testwood House, the seat of the Rt. Hon. Sturges Bourne; Tatebury Mount, commanding an extensive view of the beautiful scenery in the neighbourhood of Southampton Water; and Paulton's Park, embracing an enclosure of 5 miles, diversified with woods and lawns, are situated between these roads. There is also a third road to Salisbury, which skirts the north-western parts of the New Forest.

There is a road from Southampton to Lymington and Christchurch, between which latter places it runs parallel to the coast. The Southampton and Poole road crosses the head of Southampton Water, and passes through Ringwood. The road from Southampton to Fordingbridge is by a branch of one of the roads from Southampton to Salisbury. These roads will be more particularly noticed in the following chapter.

The tourist who makes Southampton his head-quarters for a short time, may make several pleasant excursions in the neighbourhood, and thus enjoy at the same time the pleasures of a country ramble and those which the town affords as a watering-place. Horses and

vehicles may be hired at a moderate rate.

The village of ITCHIN, on the eastern banks of the river, chiefly supplies Southampton with fish, which is taken to market by the fishermen's wives. The railway will be of great advantage to the fisheries on the south-western coasts of England, by giving them access to the London market, the supply being brought by steam-boats, and then despatched by the goods-trains in time for Billingsgate-market. Pear Tree Green, an eminence commanding views of the valley of the Itchin, Southampton, and Southampton Water, should be visited in the same excursion. Passing Ridgway Castle, we reach a common of considerable extent, on the left of which is Chissel, a seat belonging to Lord Ash-ton, soon after which we cross Northam bridge. Several ships of war were built at Northam during the last war. The South-Western Railway is carried over a bend of the river just above the bridge. The Priory of St. Dionysius is on the banks of the river, at no great distance. It was founded by Henry I. for Augustinian or Black Canons. Its yearly revenues at the dissolution were valued at 91*l.* 9*s.* gross, or 80*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* clear. The ruins are of small extent, and appear to have formed the west end of the Priory church. The road from Northam bridge leads directly to Southampton, passing Bittern Manor House, the site of the Roman station Clausentum—a

name which Mr. Warner derives from *clausus*, shut up, and *intus*, within. Bittern was anciently a castle belonging to the Bishops of Winchester.

Another pleasant excursion may be made to Fareham over Netley Common, returning by Wickham, Bishop's Waltham, Waltham Chace, and Botley. Waltham Chace is a waste of 2000 acres, belonging to the Bishop of Winchester. This chace or forest was in the early part of the last century infested by a formidable and resolute gang of deer-stealers, who called themselves "hunters," but were more generally known by the name of the "Waltham Blacks," because they blackened their faces in their predatory enterprises. They are mentioned by this name in the Act of Parliament which was passed against them, and which was therefore, as well as from its extreme severity, called the Black Act. This Act declared more

deeds to be felonies than had ever before been comprehended in a single statute. On this account, when Bishop Hoadly was advised to re-stock Waltham Park, he refused, observing that "it had done mischief enough already." Gilbert White, writing in 1767, says, "Our old race of deer-stealers are hardly extinct yet;" but at the beginning of the century he remarks that "all this country was wild about deer-stealing." On leaving Botley, the road crosses Town Hill Common, the views from which present a pleasing view of undulating hills, which are in many parts well wooded.

Other excursions may be made to South and North Stoneham; and to Romsey, through Shirley and Nutshall; also to the New Forest, an account of which is given in the next chapter.

CHAPTER IX.

THE NEW FOREST.

Few spots of England are more interesting or more worthy of being visited than that portion of Hampshire which is known by the general name of the New Forest. To those who seek health in travel it offers the finest atmosphere that can be breathed in any part of England; to the lover of scenery it presents alternations of wild and woodland, upon which there is no trace of the hand of man, yet with interspersions of exquisite retreats and highly cultivated patches here and there, which form, with the surrounding woods and wildernesses, the most delightful contrast that can well be imagined. To the lover of nature it has many attractions, both in its vegetation and in its animals. The oaks, it is true, seldom rise into lofty stems; but their branches are commonly twisted into picturesque forms. Many of the trees are ancient and of great bulk.—Mr. Gilpin remarks (*Forest Scenery*), that the New Forest oaks “seem to have a character peculiar to themselves. They seldom rise into lofty stems, as oaks usually do in richer soils, but their branches, which are more adapted to what the ship-builders call knees and elbows, are commonly twisted into the

most picturesque forms. Besides, the New Forest oak is not so much loaded with foliage as the trees of a richer soil.” The New Forest also abounds in beech, which grows to a large size. The most interesting part of the Forest, in a picturesque view, is that comprised between the Beaulieu River and the Bay of Southampton; the water prospects are very grand, and the banks, both of the river and bay, being richly decorated with woody scenery, give them a peculiarly beautiful character. In noble distances and grand forest scenes, the northern division of this tract is the most striking. There is no doubt now that the completion of the South Western Railway has brought Southampton within three hours’ distance of London, that numbers of people will seek health and freshness and rural enjoyment upon the balmy and beautiful shores of this delightful portion of the kingdom.

HISTORY.

The New Forest appears to have been, at the time of the Conquest, a wooded tract thinly peopled. William the Conqueror, or his immediate successors, afforested the tract extending from Godshill, near Fordingbridge, to

the sea, and from Ringwood to Hardley, near Southampton Water, and comprehending 92,365 acres. The bounds were so far enlarged between the commencement of Henry II.'s reign and the reign of Edward I., that they comprehended all the country between the Southampton Water and the Avon for several miles inland. These additions were disafforested in the reign of Edward I., in pursuance of the *Charta de Foresta*, and the original bounds retained till the perambulation in the time of Charles II.

Nearly all our historians and annalists concur in stating that William, in afforesting this extensive district, destroyed a great number of villages and churches, drove away the inhabitants, and laid waste a tract of country of no less than 30 miles in circuit; and look on the fact of two of his sons, and his grandson, having lost their lives in this forest, as the judgment of God for his cruel and tyrannous proceedings. The acute sense and sceptical inclinations of Voltaire rendered him the first writer who doubted the probability of the facts thus unhesitatingly put forth as to the destruction of towns and villages, which he did in his abridgment of 'Universal History.' Dr. Wharton, in his 'Essay on the Writings and Genius of Pope,' concurred with Voltaire in opinion; and since that time the subject has been amply discussed. Gilpin, in his 'Remarks on Forest Scenery,' has laboured in defence of the early writers, while Warner, in his 'Collections for the history of Hampshire,' joins in pronouncing William's

acquittal. The general arguments in favour of the king are, that the writers on whose authority the facts rest were monks, all highly exasperated against him, and greatly offended at the exactions he had made on their monasteries; that the assertions of one annalist are frequently adopted by many, who, either from want of inclination or talent, did not pursue the proper means of extending their inquiries; that no particular era is marked by these annalists (who are at other times precise in dates) at which these cruelties took place; that there is no mention of them in the 'Saxon Chronicle,' the author of the latter part of which was indisputably contemporaneous with William, and who viewed all his vices and crimes with a severe eye; that the district being at the time thinly peopled, it is unlikely that places of public worship were so liberally scattered; and that it was not necessary, notwithstanding its privileges, that a forest should be depopulated; the forest laws being, both in their original form and in their amended state, enacted rather for restricting and punishing those who dwelt within the limits of those scenes of royal diversion, than for those who dwelt without them.

The 'Pictorial History of England' (vol. i. p. 401) describes the popular feeling of the day in reference to the catastrophe which befel William Rufus in the New Forest:—

"Popular superstition had long darkened the shades and solitudes of the New Forest, and peopled its glades with horrid spectres. The fiend

himself, it was said and believed, had appeared there to the Normans, announcing the punishment he had in reserve for the Red King and his wicked counsellors. The accidents that happened in that chase, which had been so barbarously obtained, gave strength to the vulgar belief. In the month of May, Richard, an illegitimate son of Duke Robert, was killed while hunting in the forest by an arrow, reported to have been shot at random. This was the second time that the Conqueror's blood had been poured out there, and men said it would not be the last time. On the 1st of August following, William lay at Malwood-keep, a hunting-seat in the forest,* with a goodly train of knights. A reconciliation had taken place between the two brothers, and the astucious Henry, who had been some time in England, was of the gay party. The circumstances of the story, as told by the monkish chroniclers, are sufficiently remarkable. At the dead

of night the king was heard invoking the Blessed Virgin, a thing strange in him; and then he called aloud for lights in his chamber. His attendants ran at his call, and found him disturbed by a frightful vision, to prevent the return of which he ordered them to pass the rest of the night by his bedside, and divert him with pleasant talk. As he was dressing in the morning an artisan brought him six new arrows: he examined them, praised the workmanship, and keeping four for himself, gave the other, two to Sir Walter Tyrrel, otherwise called, from his estates in France, Sir Walter de Poix, saying, as he presented them, 'Good weapons are due to the sportsman that knows how to make a good use of them.*' The tables were spread with an abundant collation, and the Red King ate more meat and drank even more wine than he was wont to do. His spirits rose to their highest pitch; his companions still passed the wine-cup, whilst the grooms and huntsmen prepared their horses and hounds for the chase; and all was boisterously gay in Malwood-keep, when a messenger arrived from Serlon, the Norman Abbot of St. Peter's, at Gloucester, to inform the king that one of his monks had dreamt a dream foreboding a sudden and awful death to him. 'The man is a right monk,' cried Rufus, 'and to have a piece of money he dreameth such things. Give him, therefore, an hundred pence, and bid him dream of better fortune to our person.' Then turning to Tyrrel, he said, 'Do they think I am

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- * The Red King lies in Malwood-keep,
To drive the deer o'er lawn and steep,
He's bound him with the morn.
His steeds are swift, his bounds are good;
The like, in covert or high-wood,
Were never cheer'd with horn.

W. STEWART ROSE.

'Malwood Castle, or Keep, seated upon an eminence, embosomed in wood, at a small distance from the village of Minstead, in the New Forest, was the residence of this prince when he met with the accident which terminated his life. No remains of it exist; but the circumference of a building is to be traced; and it yet gives its name to the walk in which it was situated.'—Notes to the 'Red King.'—This spirited and beautiful poem is published in the same volume with 'Partenopex de Blois.'

* Orderic. Vital.

one of those fools that give up their pleasure or their business because an old woman happens to dream or sneeze? To horse, Walter de Poix!

"The king, with his brother Henry, William de Breteuil, and many other lords and knights, rode into the forest, where the company dispersed here and there, after the manner used in hunting; but Sir Walter, his especial favourite in these sports, remained constantly near the king, and their dogs hunted together. As the sun was sinking low in the west a hart came bounding by, between Rufus and his comrade, who stood concealed in the thickets. The king drew his bow, but the string broke, and the arrow took no effect. Startled by the sound, the hart paused in his speed and looked on all sides, as if doubtful which way to turn. The king, keeping his attention on the quarry, raised his bridle hand above his eyes, that he might see clear by shading them from the glare of the sun, which now shone almost horizontally through the glades of the forest; and at the time being unprovided with a second bow, he shouted, 'Shoot, Walter!—shoot, in the devil's name.*' Tyrrel drew his bow,—the arrow departed, was glanced aside in its flight by an intervening tree, and struck William in the left breast, which was left exposed by his raised arm. The fork-head pierced his heart, and with one groan, and no word or prayer uttered, the Red King

fell and expired. Sir Walter Tyrrel ran to his master's side, but, finding him dead, he remounted his horse, and, without informing any one of the catastrophe, galloped to the sea-coast, embarked for Normandy, whence he fled for sanctuary into the dominions of the French king, and soon after departed for the Holy Land. According to an old chronicler, the spot where Rufus fell had been the site of an Anglo-Saxon church which his father, the Conqueror, had pulled down and destroyed for the enlargement of his chace.* Late in the evening the royal corpse was found, alone, where it fell, by a poor charcoal-burner,† who put it, still bleeding, into his cart, and drove towards Winchester. At the earliest report of his death, his brother Henry flew to seize the royal treasury, and the knights and favourites who had been hunting in the forest dispersed in several directions to look after their interest, not one of them caring to render the last sad honours to their master. The next day the body, still in the charcoal-maker's cart, and defiled with blood and dirt, was carried to St. Swithin's, the cathedral church of Winchester. There, however, it was treated with proper respect, and buried in the centre of the cathedral choir, many

* Walter Hennyngforde, quoted in Grafton's Chronicle.

† 'This man's name was Furkes. He is the ancestor of a very numerous tribe. Of his lineal descendants it is reported that, living on the same spot, they have constantly been proprietors of a horse and cart, but never attained to the possession of a team.'—Notes to the 'Red King.'

* "Trahe, trahe arcum ex parte diaboli."—Hen. Knighthon.

persons looking on, but few grieving. A proof of the bad opinion which the people entertained of the deceased is, that they interpreted the fall of a certain tower in the cathedral, which happened the following year, and covered his tomb with its ruins, into a sign of the displeasure of Heaven that he had received Christian burial.*

Dismissing these popular notions, which were certainly at one time universally prevalent, and taking a calm review of the circumstances of the Red King's death, the following conclusions seem to be just:—"That he was shot by an arrow in the New Forest,—that his body was abandoned and then hastily interred,—are facts perfectly well authenticated; but some doubts may be entertained as to the precise circumstances attending his death, notwithstanding their being minutely related by writers who were living at the time or who flourished in the course of the following century. Sir Walter Tyrrel afterwards swore, in France, that he did not shoot the arrow; but he was probably anxious to relieve himself from the odium of killing a king, even by accident. It is quite possible, indeed, that the event did not arise from chance, and that Tyrrell had no part in it. The remorseless ambition of Henry might have had recourse to murder, or the avenging shaft might have been sped by the desperate hand of some Englishman, tempted by a favourable opportunity and the traditions of the place.

But the most charitable construction is, that the party were intoxicated with the wine they had drunk at Malwood-keep, and that, in the confusion consequent on drunkenness, the king was hit by a random arrow."*

In that part of the Forest near Stony Cross, at a short distance from Castle Malwood, formerly stood an oak which tradition affirmed was the tree against which the arrow glanced that caused the death of Rufus. In Leland's time there was a chapel near the spot, and Charles II. directed the tree to be encircled by a paling. Neither chapel nor tree now remain, but the spot on which the latter grew is marked by a triangular stone about five feet high, which was erected by Lord Delaware, above eighty years ago. This monument bears the following inscription:—

"Here stood the oak-tree on which an arrow, shot by Sir Walter Tyrrel, at a stag, glanced and struck King William II., surnamed Rufus, on the breast; of which stroke he instantly died, on the second of August, 1100.

"King William II., surnamed Rufus, being slain, as before related, was laid in a cart belonging to one Pufkess, and drawn from hence to Winchester, and buried in the cathedral church of that city.

"That where an event so memorable had happened might not hereafter be unknown, this stone was set up by John Lord Delaware, who had seen the tree growing in this place, anno 1745."

BOUNDARIES.

The New Forest district is an irregular triangle, of which the three angles are at Calshot Castle on the east, between the Southampton Water on the north-east and the Solent on the south-

* Dr. Milner, Hist. Winchester.

* Pict. England, vol. i. p. 403.



[Tyrrell's Oak, near Stoney Cross.]

east; the Black Hill in Rookbourn-down, on the borders of Wilts, on the north-west; and Dunley Chine, within about a mile and a half of Poole Harbour, on the south-east: the entire length of the north-east and south-west sides of this triangle, taken on the straight line, may be about 25 or 26 miles; and that of the remaining side, which lies northwards inclining a little to the east, is about 20 miles; but the triangle contained by those lines is less in surface than the district politically considered as part of Hampshire, inasmuch as more of the surface lies without the lines on the south-eastern and north-eastern sides than lies within that on the western. If, however, we take the district as naturally bounded by the river Avon on the west, westward of which river no part of the forest ever extended, the surface of the triangle which we have named will be very nearly that of the forest district. Taking this natural view of it, it may in great part be said to be insulated. It is bounded by the sea on the south and south-east, from Dunley Chine to Calshot Castle; and taking the windings of the coast, without reference to the minor estuaries, creeks, and harbours, the sea-beach here measures about 32 miles. Then, on the north-east, from Calshot Castle up to Redbridge, where the river Usk falls into the Southampton Water, the coast-line, estimated in the same way, is about 11 miles in length. Putting these together, we have a sea-coast of about 43 miles bounding this small district. Then

again, if we take the river Avon from near Hale, where it enters Hampshire, to the entrance of Christchurch Harbour, we have, without noticing the smaller flexures, a river boundary of about 22 or 23 miles; and this, added to the sea boundary, gives a definite water-line of 66 miles, separating this district from every other part of England. Turning to the land boundary properly so called, we have, not including the flexures, above 14 miles, the first 5 of which, from Redbridge to Cadnam, have Hampshire on the north, and therefore no artificial line of demarcation, any more than they have a natural one; but the remaining 9 miles, from a little to the westward of Cadnam to the Avon near Hale, have the county of Wilts on the northern side; and as a high down rises in this place, it may be considered as the isthmus by which the natural district of the forest is joined to the rest of England; and as the principal rivers in the forest have their sources at no very great distance from this high down, it is a good point of reference in forming a general idea of the slopes and other surface appearance of the district.

SURFACE, NATURAL APPEARANCES, GEOLOGICAL FEATURES, ETC.

From the high down betwixt Cadnam and Hale two heights or summit-levels ramify, the one ranging in irregular lines southward, and reaching the sea at High Cliff, about 2 miles to the eastward of Christchurch Harbour, and the other ranging south-eastward by Lynd-

hurst, and onwards between the Lymington river on the west and the Beaulieu river on the east, and subsiding into level ground within a short distance of the Solent, opposite the Isle of Wight. These are the two principal elevations, or ridges of summit-level, in the Forest; but branches of them extend through the different parts of it, as one from the southerly ridge extends towards Lymington, between the Forest Avon on the west and the Lymington river on the east, and a second from the same extends along the western bank of the Avon to near Hurst Castle. From the southerly ridge a branch extends along the margin of the Southampton Water, and another to the west of that, between the Blackwater and the Beaulieu. None of those ridges are of such elevation as to merit the appellation even of a hill; but they produce an agreeable variety of surface, especially in the cultivated parts, and in those of the Forest where the soil is of tolerably good quality, and the woods alternate with lawns.

We have said that the margin of the Forest—those parts of the district which are private property and which probably never were afforested, are the most beautiful of the whole; and they contribute not a little to heighten the interest of the peculiar parts of the Forest, from the contrast which they afford at exceedingly short distances. The shores from Redbridge along the Southampton Water to Calshot, and thence along the Solent to Hurst Castle, are unquestionably the most beautiful, and perhaps the most highly cultivated in the whole

district. Along the whole of this coast which may be about 26 miles in length, there is an exceedingly pleasing alternation of wood, open field, mansion or villa, and cottage or village, which, being near the margin of the still waters, and not exposed to any violent action of the sea or to the turbulence of storms, is peculiarly fresh and pleasant. Nowhere along this line are there any cliffs or bold shores; the surface slopes gradually down to the water's edge, and trees upon it thrive so well, that when the tide is in and the water still, the reflection of them is given from it as from a faithful mirror. There is no waste of the land at any single point along this whole line of coast. On the contrary, there is everywhere an accumulation, so that the banks of sludge which margin the land are everywhere on the increase. In most places these mud-banks, which are of very considerable breadth at low water, are so soft that one cannot traverse them on foot with comfort or even with safety. Even when the tide is out, however, they do not present such scenes of desolation as are presented by the shore-banks of more turbulent seas; for they are in general so much covered by *zostera*, that at low water they have some resemblance to green meadows. This "grass-like sea-weed," which is especially abundant on the mud-banks along the Solent, from Calshot Castle to Hurst Castle, is a very favourite food with many of the swimming birds, especially with the different wild ducks, and this is the reason why such numbers of them resort to these banks during

the inclement season. The common mallards and other ducks, not divers, which live chiefly upon vegetable food, frequent these banks when the tide is out; and this gives rise to a very severe and sometimes hazardous species of fowling among the poorer inhabitants of the coast, who even in the severest weather remain all night in their skiffs, or wander on the banks supported by their mud-pattens (boards fastened to their feet), and thus incapacitate themselves for more regular and useful labour during the day. From Calshot north-eastward, along the banks of the Southampton Water, there is comparatively little of this kind of labour, as the banks there are narrower; and there are scarcely any streams or estuaries which the birds can ascend, or find cover wherein to rear their broods during the summer. Thus the south-east coast of the Forest, opposite the Isle of Wight, is rather a peculiar coast, or at least it has its counterpart only in the harbours of Langston and Chichester, to the eastward of Portsmouth. The Isle of Wight shore of the Solent, immediately opposite, bears no analogy to it, as that shore is scoured to the gravel and rock by the direct tide, the eddy of which brings and deposits the silt and mud upon the opposite shore of the New Forest.

Some antiquaries, and among the rest Whittaker, in his 'History of Manchester,' who have endeavoured to draw geological conclusions from imperfectly understood statements in the ancient historians, have advanced the hypothesis

that the Isle of Wight was once united to the New Forest at some point a few miles to the westward of Calshot Castle, where there is a hard beach extending some distance into the water from the island side of the Solent; but the structure of the country in the direction of the heights and of the courses of the streams, and also all the changes which appear to have been brought about here by surface action, are against the probability of this hypothesis, though the point of its truth or falsehood is not one which we are called upon to discuss. All the "hards," or gravelly beaches, which occur along the coasts of the Forest, are either continuations of similar strata from the land itself, or they are accumulations of pebbles which have been brought by the waters at a time when the mud-banks were not so extensive as they are now. The two points forming the boundaries of this peculiar coast, and upon which Henry VIII.'s castles of Calshot and Hurst are situated, are even now advancing gradually into the sea, and have been doing so ever since any observations of them were recorded. The deposit at Calshot consists chiefly of mud formed in the eddy westward of the castle, which is occasioned by both the flood and the ebb tide setting most strongly against the opposite shore in this part of Southampton Water. That at Hurst Castle is a little more singular, as it forms or receives its increase upon the eastward side, and this exclusively of loose pebbles. It is probable that a portion of beach, more stubborn than

the rest, had existed here before the shore to the eastward was so much silted up.

The accumulation of mud along the coast between Calshot and Hurst Castles, though it adds very considerably to the seaward edges of the banks, appears to add very slowly, if at all, to the cultivated surface, or to the meadows along the little estuaries, which meadows have in all probability been formed by *débris* brought down by the streams, and rejected and returned by the tide. This species of formation requires however that the tidal waters should act with some energy, in order to force the *débris* up to the full level of the high water mark, or above it; and this again requires some depth of water in the offing, and a sloping bottom of hard matter, to give the requisite upward impulse to the surge. On many places of this bank, as it now exists, there are not more than 5 feet of water at high water of spring tides, while the surface, as we have said, is tangled with *zostera* and other marine plants. These circumstances reduce the force of the water to almost nothing when it reaches the shore; and this is the reason why the sea has so little influence here, either in the forming of dry land or in the destruction of that which is already formed. The north-east shore, along the Southampton Water, partakes of the same quiet and permanent character, although the banks do not extend so far within the high water line. They are pretty nearly proportioned however to the action of the general tide; for

the Southampton Water being a *cul-de-sac*, which rather expands above its entrance, the tide in it is not so strong as in the thoroughfare channel of the Solent. These circumstances tell not only in the undisturbed position of the coast-line, but in the foliage of the trees, which, along all the shores of this character, is as fresh and green, down almost to the water's edge, as if it grew upon the banks of an inland expanse of the most limpid fresh water. These circumstances render both portions of the coast very delightful places either for a temporary sojourn or constant residence.

When we quit this portion of the shore of the Forest district, passing Hurst Castle, we find the shore of a very different character. Upon the general outline it is nearly as long, at least within Hampshire, to the westward of Hurst Castle, as to the eastward of it; and it consists of two bights, or inbends of the line of coast, one of small curvature to the westward of Christchurch or Hengistbury Head, and another and deeper one, Christchurch Bay, extending from the latter to Hurst Castle. The coast of both these bays is of much the same character, consisting of a sandy and gravelly beach, upon which the water ripples or beats directly, and a cliff of loose tertiary matters—various clays, sands, and gravels immediately inward of that, portions of which are ever and anon decomposed by the joint action of the sea, the land floods, the land springs, and the weather—so that

upon the whole, the sea is advancing upon the land. The cliff here varies considerably in elevation, being in some places more than 150 feet high, while in others, where small streams find their way to the sea, the levels at which they run are so low, that high water flows up them for some distance, and gives them the aspect of little arms of the sea. As the sides of these are generally well wooded, either with trees or with coppice, they form an agreeable contrast with the comparatively treeless surface of the intervening high grounds, which, though generally under culture near the cliffs, gradually pass into a bleak furzy moor, which forms the southern part of the Forest. In the cliffs along this shore of the Forest district there are numerous fossil shells, found chiefly in a stiff tertiary clay, which is probably an estuarial formation, containing fossils both of the fresh water and of the salt, as is the case with the strata north of the chalk ridge in the Isle of Wight.

The beds containing fossils, in the tertiary formation, extend a very considerable way northwards through the Forest, though of course, as their natural position is at some height above the chalk, they crop out long before we arrive at the chalk ridges of Hants and Wilts to the north. The direction of these through the whole extent of the Forest, from the cliff in the south to the most northerly situation in which they are discovered, has not been satisfactorily traced.

There is one matter worthy of our

notice in this singular district, and that is the great disproportion between the dells or ravines in which the brooks and small rivers run toward the sea, and the small quantity of water in those rivers, even when they are swollen by the heaviest rains. At present, the most turbulent of them—and none of them are very turbulent—does not disturb a rod of ground to the depth of a foot in the course of the most stormy year; and yet one and all, and more especially those trifling ones which find their exit in Christchurch Bay, flow along dells of considerable magnitude. In order to account for this, we must suppose that, at some period of its history, the New Forest, and indeed the whole of the country, must have been far more thickly wooded, and in every respect more humid than it is at the present time; because, from the similarity of the strata on both sides of these dells, and the fact that the ends of those strata are cut on the opposite sides, it follows as a matter of course that the dells must have been formed by surface action, and in nowise by any geological force, that is, by any upheaving or depressing from causes acting below—for when such causes operate, they bend the strata and alter their inclinations, instead of simply cutting them asunder, as is done by surface action, and is here exhibited. The dells also through which those little brooks flow are larger and deeper, in proportion to the quantity of water in the brooks, than the valleys of the larger rivers in this part of the country,—the Avon, the Teste, and the Itchin; and

from the character of the surface, none of those little rivers could have been assisted in forming its dell by the outlet of any lake or large portion of water, such as we find in countries of different geological formation, and such as may have taken place in the case of the larger rivers in this part of England, in the valleys of which there are at least pretty clear indications of obstacles which have been worn through by the action of the waters, as for instance, in the disruption of the chalk strata, on the east and west sides of the Itchin at Winchester, which disruption must however have taken place long before the commencement of the period recorded in history.

With regard to the inroads of the sea upon the cliffs to the westward of Hurst Castle, we have also some evidences which fix the date of the commencement of devastation there as not being so very early as we might have been led to suppose. At low-water of very great spring-tides there are perceptible within the low-water mark the remains of salterns, or enclosures for the partial evaporation of sea-water, in order to obtain culinary salt from it by a subsequent boiling; and it is by no means likely, if the beach had possessed the character which it possesses at present, and the sea had been making such inroads as it makes now, any such permanent work would have been there effected. Those remains of salterns are on the manors of Milford and Hordle, and on the average about three miles to the westward of Hurst Castle.

The chalk formation, though not far

from the border of the New Forest district, where that abuts upon Wilts, and though, for a considerable distance southward in the Forest itself, it cannot lie at any considerable depth below the surface formations, yet does not appear uppermost anywhere within the Forest or its precincts. The whole forest consists of the tertiary formation above the chalk; and as is the case with the formation in other parts of England, it varies greatly in different places, though within the Forest itself the prevailing soil is sand, or sandy loam, more or less mingled with clay, and, generally speaking, pretty strongly impregnated with iron. The quantity of oxide of iron contained in this formation often gives it very considerable hardness and consistency, although nowhere within the Forest is it in such compact masses as to be of any value as building-stone. There are, however, certain districts where the iron predominates, so far as that a valuable iron-ore is readily obtained, the smelting and manufacture of which formed, in the olden times, an important and valuable branch of occupation. Before the value of the coal-mines was duly appreciated, and coal became the staple article of fuel, and coke the one employed in the smelting of iron, such districts as the New Forest and the Weald of Sussex and Kent possessed an importance to which they can now lay no claim. In those days the charcoal furnished by their timber was used in the small old-fashioned "bloomeries," or air-furnaces, in the reduction of iron from the ore; and as iron-stone near the

surface was all that could be rendered available in those days, and carriage from a long distance was entirely out of the question, the iron-stone beds in such districts as have been alluded to, were of great value in an economical point of view.

Up to a comparatively recent date the iron-works at Sowley, about midway between the Lymington and Beaulieu rivers, or three miles from each, were carried on to a very considerable extent, and not unprofitably, as the water accumulated in Sowley pond was made use of as a power in working the necessary machinery; these have, however, given way before the more successful competition of Wales and the midland counties, just as the woollen manufactures of the South have given way before those of Yorkshire.

The *tertia* formation of the New Forest district consists not only of different strata superposed upon each other over the chalk upon which it rests, but those beds vary at short intervals in breadth, and give evidence that they have been gradually deposited through a long period of time. That portion of the Forest which lies northward, toward the head of Southampton Water and the downs of South Wilts, is of course the lowest part of the formation, whatever may be the present height of its surface above the level of the sea. Accordingly, true to what is found in other cases, with regard to this formation, the soil of a considerable portion of this part of the Forest consists of plastic clay. This is very conspicuous in the brick-pits about

Eling, and it extends westward along the hollow, by Minstead, and then turns round for a short distance along the upper course of the streams of the Boldre, or Lymington Water, though the precise outline of it has not been defined, nor is it indeed easily definable. This plastic clay passes gradually into a sandy loam at the slopes, which sometimes attains considerable elevation, but it is generally lost in sand or gravel on the more extensive heights. In the eastern parts of the Forest a considerable extent of the inland part is occupied by crag, and this is naturally very steril. Beaulieu Heath may be considered as the grand centre of this crag formation, and the downs to the eastward of Lyndhurst as the highest part of it. In general these are now destitute of vegetation, except a small beech here and there, which appears as if consumed rather than nourished by the hungry soil. Still, wherever there is a hollow, there are trees: and when there is a mixture of loam in the soil, they acquire a proportional magnitude.

On the southern margin of the Forest again, to the south-westward of the private property at Brockenhurst, which contained a church and village before the Conquest, and was not afforested by William, the ground passes into a sandy heath, in many places thickly covered with furze, thereby showing that it is more favourable to vegetation than the crag in the opposite part of the Forest, and that, under proper management, it may still be made productive of excellent timber of some description or other.

Perhaps the natural tendency of no district of the Forest is now naturally to produce oaks without some artificial assistance; but as there mingles less calcareous matter in the loam upon the slopes here, they have not such a tendency to run into beech, as is the case in the more northerly parts of the wooded portion of the Forest. There is however another evil, which has perhaps extended itself here, in consequence of the exposure of much of the surface, both on the heights and in the bottoms, to the action of the weather. When surfaces are so exposed, every hole becomes a receptacle for those minute particles of soil of which the sweeping winds and the pelting rains rob the heights; and this transported matter, being in a state of exceedingly minute division, and held suspended in water until it is gradually precipitated, or the waters dried up, forms a water-tight crust; and this lays the foundation of a bog or quagmire, which quagmire continues accumulating year after year with a deceptive crust of moss and the coarser marsh plants upon the surface, while below it is so sludgy and treacherous, that instead of giving a tree hold of the ground so as to resist the weather, it is unsafe for the feet of domestic animals or of man. Within the Forest there are several extensive patches of this description; and as they occur in those places which naturally ought to be clothed with the most luxuriant timber or the finest pasture, we cannot help feeling that there has been some neglect, or, the best, very great ignorance, in the

management of this singular portion of the kingdom.

ANIMALS, ETC., OF THE NEW FOREST.

The New Forest horse is quite a study to those who wish to see the natural development of this most useful animal. According to the ordinary estimation of those who are fond of fancy horses, he is by no means beautiful; but he is not a little picturesque, and harmonises well with the scenes in which he is found. His tail and mane are at all times copious and flowing; and during the winter months his coat is somewhat shaggy.

The hog is another animal of which the true New Forest breed may be said to be peculiar: it is the domesticated breed left to run wild in the forest for so many generations as to have, in some degree, at least, reverted to the original type. As in the wild boar, the volume and strength of the New Forest hog are concentrated upon the anterior part of the animal, the shoulders being thick and the neck massive, as compared with those of what are esteemed the most valuable domesticated breeds. The wild hog of the New Forest has certainly not the same volume of body as the indolent tenant of a sty or a farm-yard, but there is a vigour and fleetness to which the other has no pretensions. In the hinder parts he is light and slender, while he is strengthened in front, has an elevated crest on the neck and shoulders, with a thick mane of bristles which he can erect at pleasure. His colour, also, approaches to that of the wild boar as

still found in the continental forests, being generally dark brindled, and sometimes entirely black. His ears, too, are short, firm, and erect; and when he is excited, there is a fiery glance or glare in his eye. His spirit is also true to these indications; for a single dog, untrained to the sport, must be stanch indeed before he will venture to go in upon the wild hog of the New Forest. These hogs are generally seen in small herds, led on by one patriarchal male. In their native glades, or in the depth of the beechen forests, they are animals of no inconsiderable beauty, their forms being light and elegant, and their bristles having almost a metallic lustre, which shows very brightly in the straggling sunbeams among the trees.

Besides these wild hogs, of which the number is much more scanty than it once was, there are many seasonal hogs collected in the New Forest to feed on the acorns and beech-mast. The beechen woods are most luxuriant in the Boldrewood Walk, to the westward of Lyndhurst; and accordingly it is here that seasonal hogs are sent into the forest by the forest borderers. The right of fattening hogs in this and the other royal forests is very ancient. Those who have this right pay a trifling fee, in the steward's court at Lyndhurst, for the run of the forest during the "pannage" month, which begins about the end of September, and lasts for six weeks. This business is not now carried on to the same extent that it was formerly. In these latter times, whatever it may have been formerly, the

swineherd, who is a resident in the forest, and well acquainted with it, is governor-general of this peculiar locality during the pannage month. He selects his appropriate spot, always in a neighbourhood where acorns and mast are abundant, and he constructs a rude habitation of wattles, generally round the bole of some ancient tree, for the nocturnal rendezvous of his long-nosed guests. This he covers in in a rude manner, but generally sufficient to keep out the rain, and beds to a considerable depth with ferns, or with straw, if such an article is accessible; and this being done, and a quantity of acorns and mast collected, his preparations are complete.

Next he goes round among the border farmers and collects his herd of hogs, which may amount in some instances to five hundred or six hundred, and for which, we believe, his fee is 1s. a head. Collecting them on the borders of the forest, he drives them to the vicinity of the wattled shed he had prepared, feasting them sumptuously with acorns or mast, and enlivening them during their meal with the music of his horn, by which he intends to impress them with the instinct of a connection between the said music and meat. When they have been fed and serenaded to the full measure of their desire, they are easily driven to the shed, where they soon sink into repose upon the comfortable straw or fern; and their sleep is of course as balmy and refreshing as that of hogs can be—somniaferous as these animals in general are, espe-

cially after a full meal. On the following morning he lets them out, drives them to the neighbouring pool or stream whereof they are to drink, and leaves them for the day to pick up the fragments of the former evening's supper. When night comes on again, they have a repetition of the feast and the horn, whereby they are soon hushed to repose. This is generally repeated a third day, and sometimes a fourth one, but after that they are understood to be instructed in forest manners; after which they are left to find their own food, of which there is no want upon a soil so congenial both to the growth and to the reproductive fertility of the oak and the beech. When the autumnal winds blow keenly, the acorns and the mast fall in abundance, and the hogs fare sumptuously, with comparatively little fatigue, though when the atmosphere is still, they occasionally require a meal procured by the swineherd, to which they are always called by the sound of the horn, a species of music which former feasting has rendered very delightful to their ears.

After this first instruction, the swineherd has comparatively little trouble with his herd, as they range about in the forest all day; and, with the exception of very calm days, as aforesaid, they find abundance of food; so that when he returns them home to their owners, at the expiration of the month, they are in very vigorous and healthy condition; and a very short time in keeping upon dry food makes them in excellent condition for the market, in

respect both of weight and flavour. The hogs may perhaps be considered as the most truly characteristic animals of the New Forest; for the horse is not quite in his native element, and perhaps the same may be said of the deer, for which, red deer especially, the range of the forest, ample as it is, is neither extensive enough, nor sufficiently exposed to the free and sweeping atmosphere, which is so essential to the full development of these splendid and majestic animals.

There are many deer kept in the forest. The right of deer-shooting is now confined to the lord warden and those appointed by him; and the annual supply required by that officer is sixty-four brace; a few of which are sent to her majesty's currier and the great officers of the crown, and the rest are distributed amongst those persons to whom old customs have assigned them. Rabbits, which formerly abounded, are now scarce.

In consequence of the diversity of the surface and the vegetation, the note of every bird may be heard within the forest, from the piteous chirp of the twite—the appropriate bird of desolation—to the murmuring of the ringdove, “in shadiest covert hid.” The moorland places are not sufficiently elevated for any of the species of grouse, but the whistle of the plover greets one immediately after quitting the lonely habitation of the twite: as one approaches the mossy bottoms, of which there are several in the forest, the lapwing alternately tumbles along the

earth and twitches through the air, to decoy the passenger from the habitation of its young. Some of those birds which are migrant in other parts of Britain, are resident, summer and winter, within the natural district of the New Forest. In the winter season they find the shores, especially the south-eastern shore opposite the Isle of Wight, and stretching from Calshot Castle at the entrance of the Southampton Water, to Hurst Castle near the Needles, peculiarly warm and fertile; and thus several of the long-legged or runningbirds, which have to travel with the seasons in most other places, have only a few minutes' flight between the tidal shore and the inland moor. In fact, in this short distance, there is in all respects, save that of climate, almost the same transition, in the course of a few miles, that one meets with between the summits of the Grampians and the estuaries of the tidal rivers in the Scottish lowlands. Nor are the winter visitants—the swimmers of all dimensions, and from all parts of the northern regions—less plentiful in this interesting district, when the rigour of winter seals up the waters and drives them from their native north. Therefore, to the lover of birds, whether as a sportsman or as a naturalist, the New Forest is a district of great interest; and, unlike many other places, it is equally interesting at all seasons of the year. In winter the aquatic birds throng to its shores, and resident species flock upon the cultivated fields and rich bottoms; in spring, the resting-place for many migrants which proceed farther

inward to spend the season; in summer it is all song and flutter; and in autumn, many of the birds which find their way into the country, singly and by stealth, muster their array here before they take their departure for those more tropical climates in which they winter.

TIMBER.

The chief value of the New Forest is for the raising of oak and beech timber for the use of the navy. It possesses advantages of situation, with respect to the convenience of water-carriage and nearness to the dockyards, superior to every other forest, having in its neighbourhood several ports and places for shipping timber; amongst which, Lymington is at the distance of only 2 miles, Beaulieu about half a mile, and Redbridge 3 or 4 miles from the forest; and the navigation to the dockyard at Portsmouth is only about 30 miles from the nearest of those places. Its soil, which is in general a sandy loam, is well adapted to the production of oak timber. The forest at present comprehends nearly 64,000 acres, and is the property of the crown, subject to rights of common, and other ancient claims. The crown has also manorial rights over some, and the absolute property of other plots of ground included in the former, but not in the present bounds of the forest. For local purposes the forest is divided into nine bailiwicks, known by the names of North Bailiwick, Fritham, Godshill, Linwood, Burley, Brattamsley, South Bailiwick, Inn Bailiwick, and East Bailiwick, which are

again subdivided into fifteen walks. The chief officer of the Forest is the lord warden, who is appointed by letters patent under the Great Seal, during the king's pleasure; under him are a lieutenant, a bow-bearer, two rangers, a woodward, an under-woodward, four verderers, a high-steward, an under-steward, twelve regarders, nine foresters, and fifteen under-foresters. Most of these appointments being connected with the royal chase, are now considered rather as marks of distinction than as offices of responsibility or business. Besides these ancient officers there are two others, principally concerned in what relates to the timber, and of modern appointment, the purveyor of the navy for this forest, and the surveyor-general of the woods and forests. The latter appoints a deputy, whose duty is to execute all warrants for felling timber for the navy, or for the sale of wood and timber, or executing any other works in the forest.

The only object of real importance now to the public in the New Forest is the increase and preservation of the timber. As in every other of the great forests, the quantity of timber in it has greatly decreased. Within the present century many reforms have been made from which considerable benefit may be expected; but the use of iron, and the process of bending timber by mechanical processes, has diminished in some measure the peculiar value of the New Forest oak, which consisted in the adaptation of its crooked branches to the purposes of ship-building

The condition of the lower inhabitants and borderers of the forest has improved much in a moral point of view of late years. Of what they were only half a century ago, the reader may form some idea by the following account, taken from Mr. Gilpin's work before mentioned:—"The many advantages which the borderers on the Forest enjoy, such as rearing cattle and hogs, obtaining fuel at an easy rate, and procuring little patches of land for the trouble of enclosing it, would add much, one would imagine, to the comfort of their lives; but, in fact, it is otherwise: these advantages procure them not half the enjoyments of common day-labourers. In general, they are an indolent race, poor, and wretched in the extreme: instead of having the regular return of a week's labour to subsist on, too many of them depend on the precarious supply of forest pilfer. Their ostensible business is, commonly, to cut furze, and carry it to the neighbouring brick-kilns, for which purpose they keep a team of two or three forest horses; while their collateral support is deer-stealing, poaching, and purloining timber. In this last occupation they are said to have been so expert, that, in a night's time they would have cut down, carried off, and safely lodged in the hands of some receiver, one of the largest oaks of the forest; but the depredations which have been made in timber along all the skirts of the Forest have rendered this species of theft, at present, but an unprofitable employment. In poaching and deer-stealing they often find their best as-

count, in all the arts of which many of them are well practised. From their earliest youth they learn to set the trap and the gin for hares and pheasants ;— to ensnare deer by hanging crooks, baited with apples, from the boughs of trees ; and (as they become bolder proficient) to watch the herd with fire-arms, and single out a fat buck as he passes the place of their concealment."

FOREST ROADS.

Having now described the general characteristics of the New Forest, we shall point out the roads by which the tourist may traverse this interesting district, taking Southampton as the point of departure. Lyndhurst, Lymington, Christchurch, Ringwood, and Fordingbridge, will also form good central points, and from his head-quarters in any of these places the visitor may make many pleasant excursions in various directions.

The road from Southampton to Lyndhurst, the little capital of the Forest, passes through the village of FOUR POSTS. Spring Hill, an eminence on the right of our road, commands extensive prospects. Freemantle House, in the same direction, was often visited by Cowper at an early period of his life. Passing an iron-foundry, in which iron steam-boats and locomotive-engines are made, we reach MILLBROOK, a large and pretty village. The church-yard contains a monument in memory of Pollok, author of the 'Course of Time,' who died at Shirley, near this place, in 1827, at the early age of twenty-nine. A

mile further, at the head of Southampton Water, and commencement of the Andover canal, is RUMBRIDGE, a place of great antiquity, which enjoys a considerable trade in coal, corn, timber, &c., and has many advantages as a port. There are here yards for ship-building. Crossing the Andover canal and the river Anton, we reach TOTTEN, and next RUMBRIDGE, after which a branch of the Southampton Water is crossed, and we approach Hounsdown Hill, over which the road lies. From this eminence there are grand and commanding prospects of the Forest, which we enter about a mile distant from the base of the Hill.

LYNDHURST is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Hounsdown Hill, and between 9 and 10 from Southampton. The forestal courts are held here, and it was an important place in the feudal times. The King's House, the official residence of the Lord Warden, when he visits the Forest, was built in the reign of Charles II., and probably occupies the site of a more ancient building. The courts are held in the hall, where an ancient stirrup iron is shown, which is said to have been the one used by Rufus at the time of his death. A quadrangular building opposite the King's House is called the King's Stables, and was used as barracks during the war. From the tower of the church, which was erected in 1740, a fine prospect of the Forest may be obtained. The population of Lyndhurst was 1236 at the last census.

From Lyndhurst there is a turnpike-road to Lymington ; and there are parish roads in various other directions

through the sequestered parts of the Forest. One of these roads leads to Christchurch passing Rhinefield Lodge, Welverley Lodge, and the village of Hinton.

Pursuing the road to Lymington, which is between 8 and 9 miles from Lyndhurst, we pass on the right CUFFNILLS, the seat of Sir George Rose, most delightfully situated in the heart of the Forest. Here the gloom and majesty of the Forest increases as we advance, and a feeling of solitude arises such as men experience when they roam the untrodden woods or the pathless desert.

BROCKENHURST, midway between Lyndhurst and Lymington, is a village of great antiquity, and parts of the parish church were erected before the Conquest. The font is also very ancient. Brockenhurst Park and Watcombe House are situated near the village: the latter was for several years the residence of John Howard.

LYMINGTON, a corporate town and parliamentary borough, is agreeably situated on the right bank of the river Lymington, at a short distance from its mouth, and is about 90 miles south-west from London, direct distance. By the road through Lyndhurst, Lymington is 19 miles from the Southampton station: it is 9 miles from Lyndhurst, and 10 from Christchurch.

Lymington is well supplied with water, and the paving and lighting are defrayed by a rate of 13½*d.* in the pound on houses, and 4½*d.* in the pound on land. "Lymington is subordinate to the port of Southampton, from the ne-

cessity of the importers having to pay the full duties on the entrance of their cargoes into the port" (*Corp. Reports*), which circumstance is regarded by the inhabitants as a grievance, inasmuch as they consider the situation of their own port peculiarly favourable to foreign trade. The foreign trade is unimportant, and the coasting-trade is evidently on the decline, for it appears that the aggregate tonnage inwards and outwards, which in 1812 amounted to 44,934, had gradually decreased down to the year 1832, when the tonnage inwards was 10,757, and outwards 7242. The town has of late years received considerable improvements, with a view to invite visitors during the bathing season: 3000*l.* had been subscribed in 1835 for the erection of baths, and a like sum for the establishment of gas-works. The chief manufacture in the neighbourhood is salt, which some years ago was carried on to a considerable extent, but has since declined. The salt-works are situated on the bank of the Solent Channel, to the south-west of the town. The fairs for cheese are held May 12 and October 2, and are usually well attended. Lymington is a borough by prescription, there being no charter extant or upon record. The town-council consist of four aldermen and twelve common-councillors (5 and 6 Will. IV. c. 76), and the income of the corporation, arising from landed property, tolls, quay, and river dues, amounted, in the year ending October, 1832, to 68*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*, the expenditure during the same period being 79*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* The parish church,

dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is in the diocese of Winchester, and in its interior are many handsome monuments. The living is a curacy, dependent in some respects upon the church of Boldre, and the income is included in that of the vicarage of Boldre. The population of the town and parish in 1831 was 3361. Lymington has returned two members to parliament since the reign of Elizabeth.

The traveller who visits Lymington, from which **BOLDRE** is about two miles distant, may be induced to stroll towards the village-church on learning that it was for above twenty years the scene of the pastoral labours of the Rev. William Gilpin, author of several works on the picturesque. The view from Boldre churchyard is exceedingly interesting; that towards the north extending over an area of thirty or forty square miles of forest scenery, of the richest and most diversified character; while on the opposite side appear the white cliffs of the Isle of Wight. The intermediate woods gently incline towards the adjacent stream, which, widening as it proceeds, flows into the sea at Lymington Bridge. The church itself is an ancient and primitive-looking structure, and crowns the summit of a thickly-wooded eminence.

Mr. Gilpin applied the profits which he derived from his pen and pencil to found two parish-schools, a view of which are given in the accompanying sketch. The school-houses adjoin each other, and are situated in an angle formed by the junction of two roads, one of which

leads to Pilley, and thence to Boldre Church, and the other to Vicar's Hill and Lymington. In these schools twenty boys and as many girls, "taken as far as can be out of the day-labouring part of the parish" of Boldre, are clothed and educated according to the directions of the founder. With a view to render these schools permanent he sold some of his drawings; the first lot producing 1200*l.*, and the second, sold after his death, pursuant to his will, bringing 1500*l.* One book, which is now in the possession of a gentleman of Boldre, sold for eighty guineas. Mr. Gilpin died in 1804, and was buried in Boldre churchyard, where a plain tomb marks the grave of himself and his wife.

WALLHAMPTON, the seat of the late Sir H. Burrard Neal, is about a mile east of Lymington. The grounds command extensive views of the Channel and the Isle of Wight, and contain a piece of water twelve acres in extent.

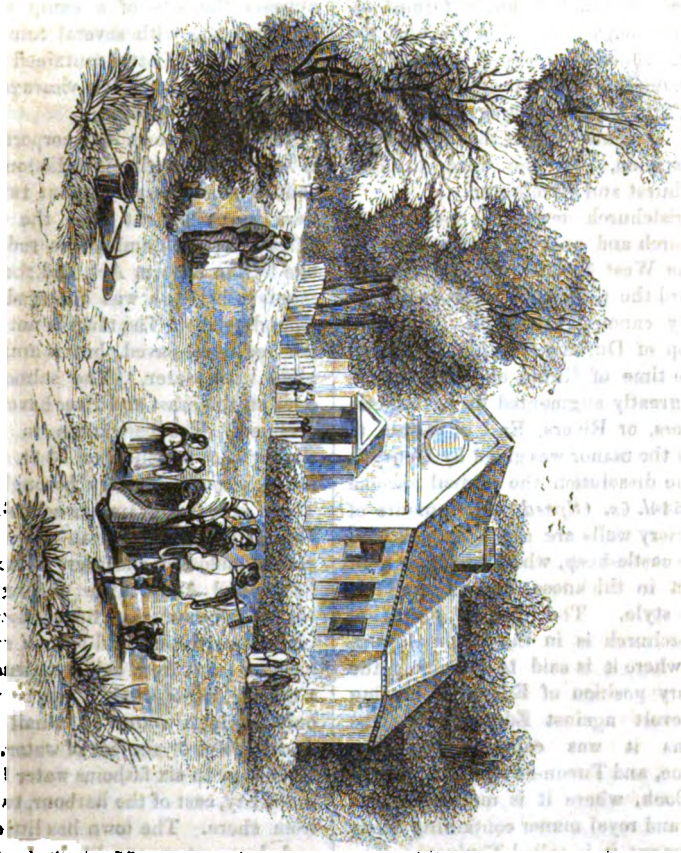
MILFORD, a small village about three miles from Lymington, is situated between the town and Hurst Castle. It is opposite Alum Bay, and affords fine views of that part of the Isle of Wight.

HURST CASTLE, situated on a long narrow strip of land, was erected in the time of Henry VIII., for the defence of this part of the coast; and, though still occupied as a garrison, is of little strength, but its position is an excellent one in a military point of view. Charles I., after being removed from the Isle of Wight, was lodged in Hurst Castle for several weeks previous to his trial and execution.



[Stokely Church.]

[Boiler-Shop.]



We will now pursue the road to Christchurch, which is parallel to the coast the whole of the way. On the left of the road is the village of **HORDLE**, near which the coast-line assumes a bold character, and Hordle Cliff rises

about 150 feet above the level of the sea. As we approach the entrance of Christchurch Bay the coast becomes less elevated. Passing **BELVIDERE HOUSE** on the left, we soon reach

CHRISTCHURCH, which is pleasantly

situated within the angle formed by the confluence of the Avon and the Stour, 20 miles west-south-west of Southampton, and 93 south-west from London in a straight line. It is nearly 30 miles south-west of the Southampton station, by the road through Lyndhurst and Lymington.

Christchurch derives its name from its church and ancient priory, founded by the West Saxons, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, for a dean and twenty canons. Ranulph Flambard, Bishop of Durham, re-built the priory in the time of Rufus, and its revenues were greatly augmented by Richard de Redvers, or Rivers, Earl of Devon, to whom the manor was given by Henry I. At the dissolution the annual income was 544*l.* 6*s.* (*Speed.*) Fragments of the priory walls are still standing, and of the castle-keep, which are more than 10 feet in thickness, and in the Norman style. The earliest notice of Christchurch is in the Saxon Chronicles, where it is said to have been the military position of Ethelwold, during his revolt against Edward. By the Saxons it was called Twyneham-Bourne, and Tweon-ea; and in Domesday Book, where it is mentioned as a burg and royal manor containing thirty messuages, it is called Thuinam. The church is a very fine old structure, in the form of a cross, partly of Norman architecture. There is a delightful and extensive prospect from the tower. From some remains that have been discovered, the town is supposed to have been of Roman origin. In the vicinity

appears the site of a camp and entrenchments, with several tumuli and barrows, which have contained human bones. The living is a vicarage in the diocese of Winchester.

Though the town is a corporation, it is wholly under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates. It sent two members to parliament since the time of Elizabeth; the number was reduced to one by the Reform Act, and the parliamentary borough was enlarged by the Boundary Act. The town is not lighted nor regularly paved, but is amply supplied with water. The salmon fisheries on the coast and river have greatly declined. The population in 1831 of the whole parish was 5344, and of the new parliamentary borough 6077. There is a free grammar-school, a national and Lancasterian school, and several endowed charities. The river Stour and Avon, after uniting about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile below the town, flow into Christchurch Bay, and form a spacious harbour; but from being obstructed by a moving bar of sand, it can be entered only at high water by small vessels drawing five or six feet of water. Good anchorage in six fathoms water is found in the bay, east of the harbour, two miles from shore. The town has little trade, and does not appear likely to improve in that respect.

There is a road from Christchurch to Salisbury through Ringwood. From Christchurch to the latter place, a distance of 9 miles, there are two roads parallel to each other, with the river Avon flowing between them. The road

on the left bank of the river passes by Staples' Cross, Sopley, Avon, and Lower Kingston. In the vicinity of Staples' Cross are several good mansions—Hinton House, Hinton Admiral, and High Cliff.

Ringwood existed during the Roman occupation of Britain, and was a place of some importance in the Anglo-Saxon times. It stands on the east side of the Avon, which here divides into three branches, and their banks not unfrequently overflow. There is a stone bridge over each branch of the river. Besides the parish church there are places of worship for several other sects, and there is a small endowed school. Ringwood is famous for its ale. The weekly market is held on Wednesday; and there are fairs in July and December. The country around is rather flat.

The roads from Southampton to Poole, and from Salisbury to Christchurch, pass through Ringwood. To return to Southampton by the former road we pass Picked Post, Stoney Cross, and Cadnam, where the road joins the Southampton and Salisbury road, and at TOTTEN, on this road, we reach the point by which we proceeded on leaving Southampton. Between Picked Post and Stoney Cross, on the right is Boldre Wood, famous for its beeches. At Stoney Cross, 7 miles from Ringwood, is Rufus' stone, already described, and near it is Castle Malwood. To the right is the sequestered hamlet of MINSTAD, and here we are again in the midst of the finest parts of the Forest. The scene which here meets the eyes of the tourist,

and the feeling which it inspires, have been described by William Howitt, who recently visited this spot:—"Herds of red deer rose from the fern, and went bounding away, and dashed into the depths of the woods; troops of those gray and long-tailed forest horses turned to gaze as I passed down the open glades; and the red squirrels in hundreds scampered away from the ground where they were feeding. * * * I roved onward without a guide, through the wildest woods that came in my way. Awakening as from a dream, I saw far around me, one deep shadow, one thick and continuous roof of boughs and thousands of hoary boles standing clothed, as it were, with the very spirit of silence. I admired the magnificent sweep of some grand old trees as they hung into a glade or ravine; some delicious opening in the deep woods, or the grotesque figure of particular trees, which seemed to have been blasted into blackness, and contorted into inimitable crookedness, by the savage genius of the place."

CADNAM PARK is between 9 and 10 miles from Ringwood, and as many from Southampton.

Instead of returning to Southampton by this road, we may ascend the valley of the Avon to Fordingbridge. The road is parallel to the river, which divides into several branches. The distance from Ringwood to Fordingbridge is only 6 miles by Blackford Green and the village of Ibbesley.

FORDINGBRIDGE is on the right or west bank of the Avon, 92 miles from London, and 18 miles from the South-

ampton station, from which there is a road crossing the head of Southampton Water. The parish is large, containing 5720 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 2822, more than half agricultural. Fordingbridge was formerly a place of greater extent than now, and has suffered several times from fire. There is a stone bridge of seven arches over the river. There are some manufactures of sail-cloth and bed-ticking. The market is on Saturday, and there is one yearly fair. The living is a vicarage, united with the parochial chapelry of Ibsay, or Ibbesley, in the diocese and archdeaconry of Winchester, and in the gift of King's College, Cambridge: the annual value is 601*l.*, with a glebe-house. There is an Independent congregation.

The road to Salisbury, after proceeding between 3 and 4 miles north of Fordingbridge, passes out of the county. Two miles from the town, on the right of a branch road which joins the road from Southampton to Salisbury, is a hill called Godshill, overgrown with oaks, on which are visible the remains of an ancient camp, perhaps of Saxon origin, secured on one side by a double trench, and on the other by the steep slope of the hill. This is the nearest road to Southampton: it passes along a ridge of high lands which runs between two feeders of the Avon, and skirts the north-western verge of the Forest, entering the Salisbury and Southampton road about 13 miles from Southampton.

We are once more at Southampton; but before taking leave of the Forest we may point out other pleasant excursions,

which may be made to a part of this district which the last tour did not embrace. Crossing Southampton Water to HYTE, we proceed from this village to BEAULIEU ABBEY, a distance of about 5 miles. The woods around Beaulieu are chiefly beech, and in the pannage season several thousand hogs are turned into them. The Beaulieu river takes its rise north-east of Lyndhurst, and is an insignificant stream until it nearly reaches the village to which it gives its name. Here it expands into a lake covering many acres, on the eastern side of which stands the abbey. The abbey of Beaulieu was of the Cistercian order, and was founded A.D. 1204, by King John: its yearly revenue at the dissolution was 428*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* gross, or 326*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* clear. The stone wall which surrounded the precincts of the abbey is in several places nearly entire, and is finely mantled with ivy. The abbot's apartments, converted after the dissolution into a family seat, having a well-proportioned vaulted hall: a long building, supposed, from the extent and height of the apartments, to have been the dormitory, the ancient kitchen and the refectory are still standing. There are some traces of the cloisters; a gateway leading to the area enclosed by them is standing; the church is entirely destroyed. The refectory, a plain stone building, with strong buttresses, and a curiously raftered oak roof, forms the parish church of the village of Beaulieu. This abbey possessed the privilege of sanctuary, and as such afforded shelter to Margaret of Anjou and her son

Prince Edward, on their landing in England at the time of the battle of Barnet, and to Perkin Warbeck, after the failure of his attempts in the West of England.

The church of Beaulieu has been lately repaired, new pewed, and otherwise improved, at the expense of Lord Montague, brother of the Duke of Buccleugh; and a comfortable residence for the clergyman of the parish has also been completed at his lordship's expense. Besides this, he has erected two schools for the reception of 100 boys and 100 girls, and provided them with a master and mistress, and it is his intention to encourage two infant schools, which are to be auxiliary to the other two schools. These schools, however, are strictly confined to children whose parents belong to the Established Church; and if there should be any Dissenters in the parish, their children will be entirely excluded from the advantages which Lord Montague has provided; and he will not allow any dwelling belonging to him "to be used for the purpose of a school of instruction in any form of religion opposed to or differing from that of the Established Church, as taught in my own schools."*

At Beaulieu was also an Hospital of Knights Templars, which was founded before the establishment of the abbey.

* 'Memorandum and Directions' issued by Lord Montague, Oct. 27th, 1840.

The ruins of the Hospital, which are now converted into farm buildings, are sometimes mistaken for those of the abbey. They are about half a mile distant from the water, on rising ground which commands views of Hurst Castle, the Needles, Spithead, and the towns of Yarmouth, Newton, Cowes and Newport. The ruins of the abbey are in a low situation, and the lands above them are now rather swampy. The Beaulieu or Exe river is navigable to the village; and the tourist is recommended to sail down it to Exbury, near its mouth, a distance of rather more than 3 miles. Here he will disembark, and proceed across the country to CALSHOT CASTLE, about 4½ miles from Exbury. This brings him to the western shore of Southampton, and the walk across the head of land from the Beaulieu river to Southampton Water presents views of the Isle of Wight and Spithead, while the scenery inland is not wanting in charms. Calshot Castle, like that at Hurst, was erected by Henry VIII. for the defence of the coast: it occupies a slip of land at the mouth of Southampton Water.

From Calshot we proceed to FAWLEY, and then once more reach Hythe, passing the whole way within a short distance of the Southampton Water. We may cross the water at Hythe, or proceed to Dibden and Eling, and there cross to Southampton.

CHAPTER X.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE old topographical poet, Michael Drayton, says justly of the Isle of Wight, in his many-footed verses,—

“Of all the southern isles she holds the
highest place,
And evermore hath been the great'st in
Britain's grace.”

He might, indeed, have made his eulogy more unqualified; for there is certainly no other of the islets that border the British coasts that can pretend to vie in any respect with this “gem of the ocean.” In beautiful and sublime scenery, much of it of a kind peculiar to itself, the Isle of Wight is surpassed by few spots on the globe.

It has been said in praise of the island of Great Britain that it contains within itself, on a small scale, specimens of all the beauties and variety of scenery of the whole of Europe. In a similar manner we may almost say that the Isle of Wight contains within a narrow compass all the most pleasing and picturesque features of Great Britain. No person with any eye or feeling for the beauties of nature ever visited this fair isle without delight; and we trust we shall render no unacceptable service by

drawing our readers' attention to it, and pointing out a few of the pleasures they may obtain in the course of a short and cheap tour. The South-Western Railroad has brought Southampton within a few hours' ride of London, and from Southampton to Cowes, the usual landing-place in the Isle of Wight, the distance is so short that it is performed, by regular steam-boats, in little more than an hour. The passage from Portsmouth seldom exceeds half an hour.

EXTENT.

Though the largest island in the British Channel, the Isle of Wight is only 24 miles in its greatest length, that is, from east to west, or from the Needles to Foreland Farm, and about twelve in its greatest breadth, or from Cowes Castle to Rocken End. Its form is that of an irregular ellipsis, and it has been compared to the shape of a turbot. It contracts at its two extremities, and is very narrow towards the west. The entire circumference is generally set down at about 60 miles, and the island contains from 120,000 to 130,000 acres of land, of which a great portion is

very productive. The high downs are excellent sheep-walks, and the farms are generally so contrived as to unite pasture with arable land. An old boast of the peasants is, that this fortunate island yields seven times as much as its inhabitants consume. At a very early period it exported a considerable quantity of wool.

The breadth of the sea-channel that separates the island from the main or Hampshire coast varies from 6 to 4 miles; while at one particular point, near Hurst Castle, in Hampshire, there is such a projection from the mainland towards the isle, as to leave a passage by water of no more than 1 mile. Thus those who are most indisposed to sea-voyages have little to fear. The channel or strait is called the Solent, or the Solvent Sea.*

NATURAL AND POLITICAL DIVISIONS, POPULATION, &c.

The natural division of the island is very clearly marked; a central chain of hills and downs cuts it into two nearly equal parts, the one being north and the other south. The southern part, which is farther from the Hampshire coast, and much the more picturesque, bold, and secluded of the two, is commonly called the "back of the island." Another natural division into east and west is formed by the river Medina, which, rising at the foot of St. Catherine's Down, traverses the island, and falls into the Solent Strait at Cowes.

The country to the east of the river, called East Medina, and that on the other side, called West Medina, are nearly equal in extent of territory.

The whole of the island is politically subdivided into thirty parishes, fourteen of which are to the east of the river and sixteen to the west. The entire population of the Isle of Wight, as shown by the census of 1831, was 35,363 persons. Previously to the passing of the Reform Bill the isle returned six members to Parliament; that is to say, two for the borough of Newport, two for Yarmouth, and two for Newtown; but since that great constitutional change, the Isle of Wight returns one county member, and two borough members for Newport, Yarmouth and Newton being both disfranchised. The whole of the island is in the see of Winchester. Newport, which is now the capital, though Carisbrook enjoyed that honour in olden times, contains a population of above 4300 persons, and is a place of considerable trade and activity.

A very favourable character has been generally given of the islanders. An enlightened foreigner, M. Simond, praises their politeness, love of neatness, and orderly behaviour. In the course of his tour at the back of the island, he says, "The meanest of their cottages, and those inhabited by the poorer class, were adorned with roses, jessamines, and honey-suckles, and often large myrtles, which, on this southern coast, bear the winter out of doors. There were vines everywhere against their houses, and often fig-trees.

* Bede calls the channel "Palago Solvente."

We thought the women remarkably good-looking. Children and grown people took off their hats, or gave us a nod, as we passed along."* Having taken lodgings for a whole week at the village of Steephill, in a fisherman's cottage, which was a sort of ale-house, he had there an opportunity of observing a new class of people (the fishermen), of whom he reports, much to their credit, that he found them remarkably decent and well-behaved; not addicted to drunkenness (the capital vice of our poor, and the cause of all their other vices)—not quarrelsome among themselves, but friendly, good-humoured, and very cheerful.

HISTORY.

The Romans took possession of the Isle of Wight (Vecta or Vectis) in the reign of the Emperor Claudius, about the year 45 of the Christian era, and kept it till 495, when it was reduced by Cerdic the Saxon, who is said to have cut off the few aboriginal Britons that still remained there. During the Saxon Heptarchy, when England was unhappily cut up into little kingdoms jealous of and almost continually at war with one another, the pleasant hills and quiet valleys of the Isle of Wight were often made to run with blood. In 678, when the population of the island still adhered to the old Druidical superstitions, Cædwalla, king of the West Saxons, made war upon Edelwach, king of the

South Saxons, in whose possession the island then was. Cædwalla prevailed in the struggle, slew his rival, and passing over to the Isle of Wight, put all the people to the sword, except 300 families, who were forcibly converted to Christianity, and then, with a fourth part of the island, given by the conqueror, who had made a vow to that effect, to Wilfred, Archbishop of York. During the incursions and invasions of the piratical Danes the island was frequently plundered and desolated. In 1053 Earl Godwin, who was then an exile and an outlaw, having obtained a fleet from the Earl of Flanders, stripped the wretched inhabitants of all that had escaped the rapacity and barbarity of their former invaders. The now happy islanders will hardly conceive the frequency and the cruelty of these attacks; but if they reflect upon them, they will have motives to be grateful for that progress in civilization and in national strength (the consequence of civilization) which have secured to them the undisturbed enjoyment of life and its blessings.

At the period of the Norman Conquest (1068) William Fitz-Osborne, carrying fire and the sword, subdued the island for his own use and profit, and became the first Lord of Wight. He founded a stately priory near Carisbrook, and built several churches. This Fitz-Osborne, who is better known in English history under the title of the Earl of Hereford, bestowed the priory of Carisbrook and the churches he founded in the island on the great

* 'Journal of a Tour and Residence in Great Britain.' By Louis Simond.

Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy, which also owed its origin to his devotion and munificence. The monks were of the Cistercian order.

For more than two centuries the island continued to be governed by its independent lords, who, like those of the Isle of Man, exercised all the rights of sovereignty; but in 1293 Edward I. purchased the regalities for a sum of money, after which the kings of England retained for themselves the title of Lord of the Island, and governed it by *custodes* or wardens. The person who sold the regalities was a lady—namely, Isabella de Fortibus, *Lady of Wight*, &c., who had succeeded to the honour in 1283 by the death of her brother Baldwin, fifth earl of Devonshire and Lord of the Isle of Wight. The money she received from the crown was 4000*l.*, and she is said to have died on the same day that she concluded the bargain and alienated the rights of sovereignty from her family. But it was only these rights or regalities that were sold to the king, as she disposed of her estates on the island by will. The title of Warden, conferred upon the king's representative, was afterwards changed into that of "Constable of Carisbrook Castle," to which was sometimes added, "and Captain of the Isle of Wight." The title of "Governor" gave great offence to the islanders, who thought an extension of power was intended thereby, and when (in 1558) Sir George Carey assumed that title, and claimed unwarrantable authority over them, they very properly resisted him; and the powers objected

to were never more heard of, though the title of "Governor" was resumed in 1634 by Jerome, Earl of Portland, and was long continued in other persons. The weak and unfortunate Henry VI. conferred the title of *King of Wight* upon Henry Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, and in a ridiculous coronation placed the crown on the duke's head with his own hands. It appears, however, that this ceremony conferred no regal power, as it was held that the king had no right to touch the integrity of the British monarchy, or transfer any part of his sovereignty, and the empty title was left to expire with the nobleman who first bore it. Before the time of the duke-king the island had been partially fortified, and means had been adopted to defend it from the attacks of the French. During the reign of Edward III. twenty-nine beacons and watch-towers were erected at different points, in order to spread the alarm over the whole island when an enemy was approaching. Two men by day and four by night kept watch and ward at each of these towers; and every landed proprietor was bound to find men and arms, in proportion of one man for every 20*l.* a year his estates rendered him. In case of an attack the Lord of the island furnished seventy-six men, the clergy sixteen; the Abbot of Glastonbury, the Bishop of Winchester, and the other great churchmen who held lands there, contributed their quotas, and the *custos insulæ*, or warden of Wight, could summon home absentees, and make other provisions for the common security. Every land-owner

was bound, when called upon, to do garrison duty for forty days, and at his own expense, in Carisbrook Castle, the main fortress. This castle was often attacked by the French, but never taken, the islanders on every occasion making a gallant defence. In 1340 Sir Theobald Russel, one of the wardens of Carisbrook Castle, was killed in an action with the French invaders, who were, however, thoroughly beaten and driven back to their ships. In 1377 the French, who had laid a regular siege to it, were obliged to retire with great loss. In the following century, while Henry V. was desolating France with his mad wars, a body of Frenchmen, determined to carry the same curse into his own dominions, suddenly appeared off the Isle of Wight, and effected a landing there. After burning some detached cottages and farm-houses, this force was defeated by the inhabitants and driven back to their ships. From this time till the reign of Henry VIII., the French made no new effort, but then they succeeded in landing on the island, and plundered a good part of it.

Shortly after this sad event the islanders furnished themselves with a parochial artillery; each parish provided one piece of light brass ordnance, which was carefully kept either in the church or in a small house built for the purpose close by the church. Towards the end of the last century some sixteen or eighteen of these guns were still preserved in the island; they were of low calibre, some being six-pounders and all the rest one-pounders. The islanders,

by frequent practice, are said to have made themselves excellent artillerymen. The gun-carriages and ammunition were provided by the parishes, and particular farms were charged with the duty of finding horses to draw them.*

From the time that the naval superiority of Great Britain was established, these measures of defence on the part of the islanders became almost unnecessary; their protection was secured by our "wooden walls;" no more invaders could set their feet upon the happy soil; and whilst hundreds of our fleets went by in succession from Portsmouth and Spithead, to carry war to every corner of the globe, the Isle of Wight had nothing to fear for itself.

In our view of the interior of the island we may mention a few local occurrences, but, in an historical sense, there are few events of any importance to distinguish its annals from those of England at large.

VOYAGE ROUND THE ISLAND.

The most striking and distinctive features of the Isle of Wight exist on its coasts, which present a continual succession of natural phenomena, and grand or beautiful scenery. The tourist who is favoured by fine weather, and has time enough, would do well to make the tour of the island by sea; as in that manner he will see many things that would otherwise escape him, and take in the stupendous dimensions of cliffs and rent

* Pennant: 'Journey from London to the Isle of Wight.' Sir Richard Worsley: 'Hist. Isle of Wight.'

columns with far more effect than in looking at them from above, or from the narrow line of the shore.

We will attempt to describe a few of the scenes to be met with in this brief circumnavigation, before we speak of the quieter rural beauties of the interior. We will begin with the picturesque maritime town of *Cowes*, where we landed when we visited the island, and thence proceed along the western coasts to the *Needles* and the back of the island. This pretty town, surrounded by gentlemen's seats and elegant cottages, is situated at the mouth of the *Medina*, standing partly on the eastern and partly on the western bank of that river. A port and roadstead generally crowded with shipping offer animated seaward views; and on the land side there is a variety of beautiful walks through an undulating country, where trees are everywhere mixed with the habitations of men. Old *Cowes Castle* is a small fortress on the sea-shore, offering no very picturesque features; but *East Cowes Castle*, and *Norris Castle*, in the neighbourhood, though both modern Gothic structures, are fine objects in the scenery, and beautifully situated. As our object at present is to describe the coast of the island, we will refrain from giving farther details about this town, which is one of the most important and most frequented in the Isle of Wight.

On leaving West Cowes, we sailed under the pleasant *West Cliff*, and, doubling a little promontory, came into *Gurnard's Bay*, where a small stream, called the *Rue*, falls into the Solent

Channel. Thence, crossing *Thorness Bay*, we reached *Newtown*, which is curiously situated on a deep and irregular inlet or creek of the Solent, which admits vessels of considerable burden. Though formerly a market-town of some consequence, and though, until very recently, it sent two members to Parliament, *Newtown* is but a small village, with fourteen or fifteen cottages, and a population of about seventy persons. The only trade it now has is derived from some salterns, or salt pans. In the rear of the village are the picturesque remains of an old church, which are almost entirely concealed by luxuriant ivy.

From *Newtown Bay* we sailed slowly along the coast to the estuary of the river *Yar*, on the eastern bank of which stands the town of *YARMOUTH*. During this short voyage from *Cowes* the tourist catches fine glimpses of the interior scenery of the island, backed by hills and downs; but the coast itself, though prettily sprinkled with small hamlets and fishermen's huts, and covered in many places with green grass, or trees, to the water's edge, yet offers none of those features of sublimity which occur a little beyond *Yarmouth*.

Yarmouth, the most important town on the western end of the island, is very advantageously situated, and has a constant intercourse by means of steamboats and sailing vessels with *Lymington* on the main, from which it is distant no more than 4 miles: its port or roadstead is excellent. The population of *Yarmouth*, however, is but small, not

much exceeding 600 persons. There are no very old buildings, for the town was totally destroyed by the French in 1337. The small castle or block-house at the entrance of the river was built by Henry VIII. to defend the town from the naval attacks which Francis I. commenced after Henry had leagued himself with the Emperor Charles V. In 1671 the fortifications were improved, and in the course of that year Charles II., on a royal progress, paid a visit to Yarmouth, where he was entertained by "that gallant Admiral Sir Robert Holme," a hero of no mean fame, who lies buried in the parish church, with a statue and a long epitaph over his ashes. The church is nearly 300 years old, having been built in 1543, but it underwent a thorough repair in 1831. Yarmouth sent its two members to Parliament as early, it is said, as A.D. 1304.

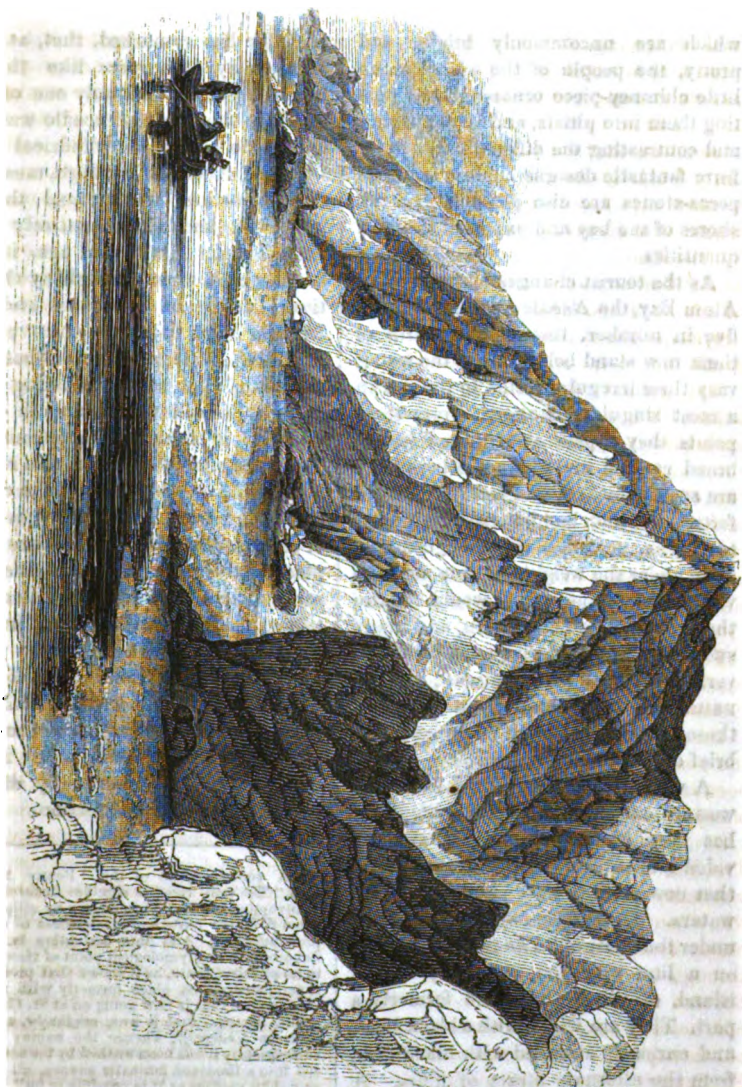
The river Yar, which has a fine appearance at high water, rises close to *Freshwater Gate*, on the opposite side of the island, and within a few yards of the sea, which, in stormy weather, has been seen to break over the narrow ridge of separation, and mingle its salt waves with the fresh waters of the river-head. The Yar almost insulates the western extremity of the island from the rest of the Wight; and, were it desirable, the ocean could be easily made to flow through its bed, from the south to the Solvent Strait at the north. To this end nothing would be required but to cut through the very narrow isthmus at *Freshwater Gate*. The river Yar is

navigable up to *Freshwater Mills*, and affords a pleasant aquatic excursion.

On leaving Yarmouth we almost immediately reached *Sconce Point*, where Hurst Castle, standing at the end of a projection from the Hampshire coast, presents itself in a picturesque manner, and apparently almost within reach. At the turning of *Sconce Point* into *Colwell Bay* the peculiarities of the coast begin to appear. The cliffs become lofty and vertical, exposing their different strata, the lowest of which is of white sand, and more than thirty feet thick. This continues along *Tottland Bay* to the grand eminence of *Headon Hill*, which rises 400 feet above the level of the sea, which is here remarkably clear, with a fine rocky bottom. On turning this point the voyager finds himself in a remarkable bay, at the southern side of which the *Needles* show their fantastic shapes,—their rugged narrow ridges, in summer time, being generally covered with sea-fowl.

Alum Bay, a section of which is correctly represented in our engraving, presents indeed one of the most striking scenes on this curious coast. On one side it is bounded by lofty precipices of chalk, of a pearly colour, broken and indented;—on the other, by cliffs strangely but beautifully variegated with different colours, arising from the strata of red and yellow ochres, fuller's earth, black flints, and sands, both grey and snowy white. The white sand is valuable for the manufacture of glass and chinaware, and is exported in considerable quantities. Of the coloured sands,

[Alum Bay.]



which are uncommonly bright and pretty, the people of the island make little chimney-piece ornaments, by putting them into phials, and so arranging and contrasting the different tints as to form fantastic designs. Alum and copperas-stones are also picked up on the shores of the bay and exported in small quantities.

As the tourist changes his position in Alum Bay, the *Needle Rocks*, which are five in number, though only three of them now stand boldly out of the water, vary their irregular forms to the eye in a most singular manner. From some points they appear as if united in one broad rugged mass; from others they are seen detached, and looking like old fortresses which had battered each other to pieces, or fallen into one common ruin under the weight of time and the violence of tempests. It would require the pencil instead of the pen, and many successive views, to give a notion of the variety of these combinations; but the natural causes which have produced these phenomena admit of an easy and brief explanation.

A very sharp point of land forms the western end of the Isle of Wight. This has been broken by the sea, and divided into several large columnar rocks, that now seem to have risen out of the waters. These rocks, which are famous under the name of "*The Needles*," stand on a line with the extremity of the island, of which they were formerly a part. They are white, with a black base, and curiously streaked with black dots, from the alternate strata of flints. A

traveller has remarked, that, at a distance, they look more like thimbles than needles.* The only one of them to which the name of needle was at all applicable was of a cylindrical shape, thin, and above 100 feet high, measuring from low-water mark; and this one fell down and almost entirely disappeared about sixty years ago, its base having been worn through by the continual action of the waves and tides. Seamen used to call it the "pillar of Lot's wife." It was the farthest from the island: its base, consisting mostly of flint, is still visible, and in stormy weather it forms a dangerous reef. From the chalky nature of this remarkable group of rocks, and of the coast of the island from which they have been detached, continual changes are taking place in their form and disposition. In some places the sea has eaten them through, and formed large and irregular archways; in others, it has so washed away their sides that they look rather like walls than solid rocks; while deep caverns have been formed in the chalky cliffs of the island, which fall in from time to time, and gradually diminish the island in that direction. At no

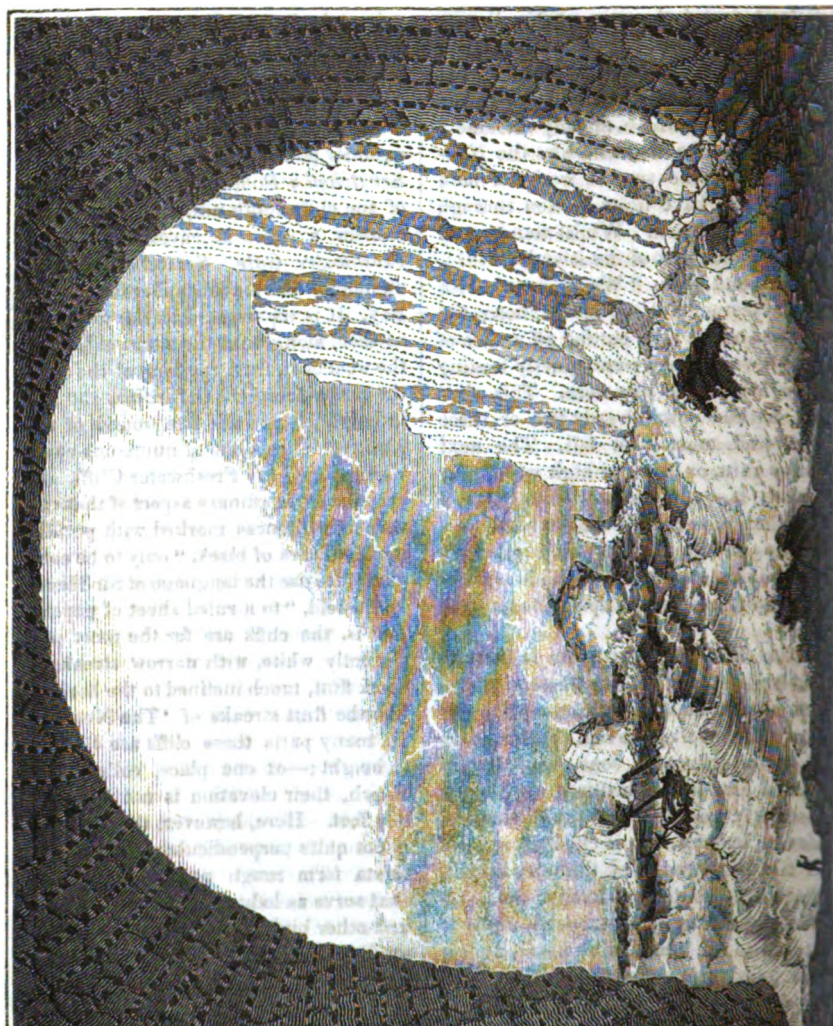
* A correspondent of the 'Penny Magazine' says, "The word *Needles* signifies *Undercliff*, and is a corruption of *Niederfels*, merely by ellipsis of the *r* and *f*, in the haste and carelessness of colloquial pronunciation. And this derivation is not only important in an etymological point of view, but also in its physical sense, as it shows that precisely the same process took place formerly with respect to the *Needles* that is now going on at St. Catherine's Point, namely, that it was, originally, a landslip, then an *Undercliff*, whence the name; and that subsequently it has been washed by the action of the sea into a thousand fantastic shapes, all probably as unlike needles as it is possible to be."

distant period the present Needles, or rocks, will have wholly disappeared; but new ones will be formed out of the western end or projecting point of the Isle of Wight, which, already extremely narrow, will be insulated like the Needles, when the sea, at work on both sides, shall have quite broken through the thin partition. Whilst standing on this perilous part of the island, in 1811, M. Simond says, "We observed, with some terror, a long crack along the margin of the cliff, cutting off a slice of the downs (sheep were quietly feeding upon it) of full one acre. This slice has settled down already two or three feet, and must soon fall. The next heavy rain, or frost, or high wind, may detach it,—and down it slips 660 feet perpendicular! We had landed yesterday on the flinty beach precisely under this cliff, twice as high as those of Dover, and more exposed to an open sea."

The Needles' light-house is built on the highest point of this western part of the island, at an elevation of 715 feet above the level of the sea. The building is a low truncated cone, but its light shines afar like a brilliant star, being distinctly seen at sea at the distance of eleven leagues. It is cited as a proof of the healthiness of this airy height, that an old couple who lived in the light-house, and sat up by turns all night to attend to the lamps, were never, during the long term of nineteen years, hindered by sickness from attending to their duties a single night. It is observed that at the Needles the tide rises

only eight feet, and at the whole back part of the island no more than nine, while at Cowes, on the other side, it rises fifteen feet.

On turning the Needles and the most westerly point of the Isle of Wight, into *Scratchell's Bay*, the rough sublimity of the cliffs continues, and there commences a series of caves that end at *Freshwater Gate*. *Scratchell's Bay* is an indentation much smaller than *Alum Bay*. It is represented in the wood-cut, as seen, along with the other objects to the west of it, from the front of the cave, the magnificent arch of which, 150 feet in height, forms the foreground of the picture. This is one of numerous caves which pierce the Freshwater Cliffs, and vary the extraordinary aspect of that vast wall of whiteness marked with parallel inclined lines of black, "only to be compared," to use the language of Sir Henry Englefield, "to a ruled sheet of paper;" that is, the cliffs are for the most part perfectly white, with narrow streaks of black flint, much inclined to the horizon, like the flint streaks of 'The Needles.' In many parts these cliffs are 400 feet in height;—at one place, called *Main Beach*, their elevation is not less than 600 feet. Here, however, the precipice is not quite perpendicular. The several strata form rough projecting shelves, that serve as lodgments for the sea-fowl and other birds, that congregate here in prodigious numbers. There are cormorants, gulls, puffins, razor-bills, will-cocks, Cornish choughs, wild pigeons, daws, starlings, &c., that in certain seasons sit in tiers, the one above the other,



almost covering the entire face of the cliffs. At the report of a gun they scream, fly out, and almost darken the sky with their countless wings. At times flights of these birds skim the air in endless circles, and wheel round the head of the tourist on wings that seem without motion, and with a cry like a horse-laugh. One or two species remain all the year round, but most of them are migratory, coming in May, when they lay their eggs in the rocks, and taking their departure about the middle of August, after which they are seen no more till the next breeding-season. During their stay, they are not left undisturbed in their seemingly inaccessible retreats. Unable to get at them from below by climbing, the islanders reach them from above by descending the perpendicular cliffs, in much the same perilous manner as is practised by the Norwegians and the hardy natives of the Feroe Islands. They drive a large stake or iron bar into the top of the cliff;—to this stake or bar they fasten a strong rope, at the other end of which there is a stick put crosswise for the adventurer to sit upon or support himself by; and with this simple apparatus he lets himself down the front of the horrid precipice. If his object is to secure eggs, he halloo as he descends, to scare the birds away; but when he wishes to obtain feathers and the birds themselves, he goes to work in silence, and either catches them in their nests or knocks them down with a stick as they fly out of their holes. The soft feathers of the birds are of value, and find a ready market with

upholsterers; their flesh, which is rank and fishy, is bought by the fishermen, who cut it up and use it for their crab-pots and other baits. Some of the eggs are said to be very good eating. Worsley says that in his time a dozen birds generally yielded one pound weight of soft feathers, which were sold for 8d. the pound.

Standing on the summit of these tremendous cliffs, Shakspeare might have said, with stricter accuracy than he did of those of Dover,

“ The murmuring surge,
That on the unnumbered idle pebbles
chafes,
Cannot be heard so high.”

Here, too, grows samphire, in fine green tufts; and those who gather it, “perilous trade,” are let down by a rope from above, in the same manner as the fowlers. The pebbles below, over which the sea rolls, are black and shiny, being mainly flints loosened or dissolved from their beds in the chalk, and broken and polished by the friction of ages, produced by the never-resting tides and waves. The water at the foot of the cliffs is so clear, that one can see, many fathoms deep, to the bottom of it.

Scratchell’s Bay is often visited by tourists. The most magnificent view down into it, Sir Henry Englefield says, is obtained by descending a very steep grassy slope, to the edge of one of the cliffs in the neighbourhood, and from this point the whole of the Needles may be seen; but he advises strangers not to attempt to find their way down with-

out taking a guide along with them. In his splendid folio, entitled 'A Description of the Isle of Wight,' (London, 1816,) Sir Henry has given various views of the scenery in the neighbourhood of this spot. "Nothing can be more interesting," he remarks, "particularly to those who take pleasure in aquatic excursions, than to sail between and round the Needles. The wonderfully coloured cliffs of Alum Bay, the lofty and towering chalk precipices of Scratchell's Bay, of the most dazzling whiteness and the most elegant forms, the magnitude and singularity of the spiry, insulated masses, which seem at every instant to be shifting their situations, and give a mazy perplexity to the place, the screaming noise of the aquatic birds, the agitation of the sea, and the rapidity of the tide, occasioning not unfrequently a slight degree of danger, all these circumstances combine to raise in the mind unusual emotions, and to give to the scene a character highly singular, and even romantic."

We are now at the back of the island. Rowing under *Freshwater Cliffs*, the tourist may visit *Neptune's Caves*, the larger of which is 200 feet deep;—the bay of *Watcomb*, where the scenery is as bold and almost as curious as at Alum Bay,—and then *Freshwater Cave*, which is about 120 feet in depth, and, taken altogether, the most romantic of these caverns. A rude fantastic arch, about thirty feet high, and of the same width, and two lateral arches of smaller dimensions, separated from each other by a thin rocky column,

give admittance to this wild and deep recess. Looking seaward, from the interior of the cave, the view is at once curious and beautiful. Through the main arch a glorious expanse of ocean presents itself; and looking through the side arches, which are of an arrow-head shape at top, you see part of the rocky coast of the Wight as through the Gothic windows of a cathedral.

A little farther on, a detached arched rock stands boldly out into *Freshwater Bay*, its rough edges generally crowded with screaming wild sea-fowl. It is now nearly 600 feet from the cliffs of the island, of which it once formed a solid part. In the centre of this bay is a creek, called *Freshwater Gate*, with a huge columnar rock, rising out of the sea immediately before its mouth. It is just behind this creek that the *Yar* rises, which river, running due north, right across this end of the island, falls, as we have said, into the Solent Strait at Yarmouth. In the time of Queen Elizabeth an earthen redoubt was thrown up on the narrow isthmus that separates the sea from the river—a bit of fortification that cost the sum of 65*l.* 1*l.* 2*d.* precisely. Near to this point is *Compton Bay*, where there is a delightful walk on a broad margin of silvery sand. Passing the pretty village of *Brook*, and a curious group of small rocks, called the *Bull Rocks*, which are frequently dangerous to seamen, we shoot into *Brixton Bay*. Here the cliffs become much lower, and are cut and rent towards the sea in an extraordinary manner. These chasms,

which, in the language of the islanders, are called *Chines*, form one of the most characteristic features of the coast. Sir Richard Worsley has endeavoured to explain the etymology of the term "chine." "This term," he says, "is applied to the back-bone of an animal (both in the manège and culinary language), which forms the highest ridge of the body. *Echine*, in the French, is used in the same sense; and Boyer has the word *chinfreneau* for a great cut or slash. Hence the word chine might be thought peculiarly expressive of a high ridge of land cleft abruptly down; and the several parts of the southern coast denominated chines all correspond with this description." Our worthy historian, having got upon the stalking-horse of etymology, from which people are seldom in a hurry to dismount, goes on to prove the derivation of chine from a Greek word; but we may leave the matter here, it being enough for our readers to understand what is meant by the English word in the Isle of Wight, or that a chine is a place where the ridge of the cliffs is cut through by the action of water running seaward from the interior of the island, or by other means, and where a ravine is formed opening to the shore. Every one of the chines has a stream of water running through it. In Brixton Bay there are above a dozen of them; but they are inferior in magnitude and picturesque beauty to some we are fast approaching. Among them, however, *Compton Chine* and *Brooke Chine* are worth visiting.

After leaving *Brixton Bay* and passing *Atherfield,* Point*, and another group of rocks that lies off it, the voyager will find himself in *Chale† Bay*, where freestone cliffs, and of a tremendous height, impend over the shore. Whether seen by sea or land, the views here are sublime. On *St. Catherine's Hill*, the most elevated point of the whole island, "there is a stern round tower of other days," which has a happy effect in the landscape, and is not uninteresting in its history. It was built above those terrible precipices as far back as the year 1323, by Walter, lord of the neighbouring manor of Godyton, who assigned certain rents for a chanting priest to sing mass in it, and also to provide light in the tower (which was at once a chapel, a hermitage, and a pharos), for the safety of seamen in dark and stormy weather. At the Reformation the trifling revenues were sequestrated or alienated,—the poor monk ceased his mass, and the lights to shine across the deep, where rocks and shoals threatened destruction to the "night-faring skiff." On the latter point, however, our regret may be the less, as it is asserted that, owing to its great elevation, the pharos is so frequently surrounded with mists as to render even the best of modern lights of no avail there, when they are most wanted. By day, and in fine weather,

* From *Aderfeldt*, the field with a vein or streak through.

† The word *schale* signifies a cup or bowl, also a nut-shell; and thus it may mean the bay in the shape of a bowl.



however, the old tower still renders good service, being an excellent landmark. Mr. Pennant informs us, that it was thought of such importance in his time, that it was thoroughly and solidly repaired, and that, in clearing away the rubbish that had fallen in, the workmen discovered the form of the little chapel, and the floor of the little cell in which the pious priest used to sleep. This tower stands more than 800 feet above high-water mark, and commands a most extensive view, embracing the whole of the island, except one corner, the Hampshire coast, the New Forest, Southampton Water, Portsdown Hill, the downs of Sussex, Beachy Head, the isles of Portland and Purbeck, and (on a very fine day) part of the French coast near Cherbourg.

Chale Bay, which is about three miles in extent, is considered very dangerous in stormy weather, the shore is everywhere bold and bluff, and there is always a large swell rolling in on it; when that swell is attended with what sailors call a ground-sea, not even the strongest Newfoundland dog can gain the shore by swimming.

On the coast of the Wight, at the foot of this towering eminence, and in *Chale Bay*, occurs one of the finest of the chines or ravines, called "*Black-Gang Chine*." This gloomy fissure penetrates far into the cliffs that form the most southern point of the Isle of Wight. At the upper part of it, a stream, which no doubt has largely contributed to the disruption of the soil and the formation of the chasm, falls

over a ledge of rocks that is nearly eighty feet high. At certain seasons, after long and heavy rains, this is no mean cataract; but during fine summers the scanty stream is retained behind the rocky ledge, or merely trickles over the brow of the precipice. Without this adjunct, however, the *Chine* is wild, picturesque, and gloomily sublime. In some places, the cliffs on either side of it are nearly 500 feet high. These rocks are of the wildest forms, and in colour almost black. There is scarcely a trace of vegetation. The whole scene reminds one of a chasm in the Alps, or, still more, of some of the lava recesses in the flanks of Mount *Ætna*. Near the *Black-Gang Chine*, and in that very ravine, are some curious evidences of the landslips that occur so often on these coasts, and alter their appearance and character.

Continuing our circumnavigation, and doubling *St. Catherine's Point*, we find ourselves close to that remarkable part of the island called the *Undercliff*, where the effects of great and remote landslips show themselves on a prodigious scale. Here a strip, of about six miles long and from a quarter to half a mile in breadth, seems to have settled down and slipped towards the sea, exhibiting a jumble of rocks overturned and broken—mounds of earth—deep hollows—and numerous springs, forming falls of water, collecting into pools, and hurrying to the sea.* The cliffs that immediately face the sea vary from

* M. Simond.

60 to 100 feet in height, and upon these runs the long irregular platform or terrace, which is backed on the north by a bold abrupt steep—a wall of rock, rising from 200 to 300 feet higher. These upper or land cliffs are composed of horizontal beds of sandstone; being precisely the same material as is seen on the broken surface below. It is every way evident that the sunken tract, or undercliff, was formerly a continuation of the high cliff. "The crisis of this part of the undercliff," says M. Simond, "is evidently of no recent date, and the earth has had time to grow young again; for, contrary to the laws of organised life, inert nature loses with age its original deformity and barrenness, and is indebted to the very dissolution of its substance for beauty and fecundity." The same observer, in trying to account for the landslips, thinks it probable that the numerous springs which now run over the surface of the undercliff to the sea, must formerly have flowed under it, and may have worn wide passages through some soft under-strata to the sea, the waves of which, penetrating into these fresh-water courses, may gradually have undermined the foundation of the superincumbent mass so as to make it give way, upon which it partly settled down, and partly spread out into the sea.

It should appear that the undercliff has been formed rather by a succession of landslips, than by one grand fall or subsidence. These changes are still occurring on a larger or smaller scale, at the two extremities of this, the south-

eastern, side of the island. In the year 1799 a large tract of the high cliff (from eighty to ninety acres) was of a sudden seen sinking and sliding towards the sea, the surface breaking into strange shapes, and yawning chasms, closing and opening again. This was at the western end of the undercliff, near NITON; and a few years ago a slip of land, about a mile to the south of that village, gave a good notion of a country that had been overturned by a dreadful earthquake. The remains of a house that had been partly swallowed up were still seen. Another of these landslips happened in the winter of 1810-1811 at the eastern extremity of the undercliff district, close to BEXCHURCH. M. Simond, who was on the island a few months after this subsidence, says that it extended over forty or fifty acres. The whole of his description is singular and very spirited. "The rents here are frightful, and the rocks are in some places ground to fragments, by their friction against each other. The old surface, with its vegetation, seems to have been swallowed up, and new soil, white and barren, substituted. We have seen the roots of trees actually standing up in the air, while their branches were buried in the soil! a poetical situation, assuredly, which put us in mind of that picture of the deluge, in which two human feet only appear on the surface of the waters." [What follows is exceedingly consoling to those who are anxious for the preservation of the beautiful and salubrious undercliff.] "The chaos of

débris that fell, now forms a promontory into the sea. The phenomenon of the landslips, thus going on at the two extremities of the tract (E. and W.), and not in the middle, seems to indicate that this middle has reached a solid basis, and is really now quite firm."

In 1818 there was another landslip, which threw out another little promontory into the sea. We believe there are no records of any loss of human life occurring from these moving mountains. At all events the peasantry who reside on the spot testify but little apprehension, their usual answer to any queries being, "Oh! it is all firm and strong hereabout."

The Undercliff, as it has been well observed, unites, in a singular manner, the pastoral wildness of Scotland, the luxuriant vegetation, verdure, and shade of the middle parts of England, with a bold shore, and an unbounded sea, continually traversed by ships.

The great terrace or platform of the Undercliff rests upon a sub-stratum of blue marl and is broken above into a succession of smaller terraces, rising irregularly above one another, and diversified with hillocks of all shapes and sizes. Wheat grows exceedingly well on this perturbed soil, and potatoes and all other crops flourish equally. In the lower part are some open pastures covered with Alderney cows, and flocks of sheep hang on the steep downs in the background. The trees that have been planted thrive in a wonderful manner, and with the luxuriant myrtle-bushes form on every side the most

delightful shades, from which cottages, villas, churches, and villages peep forth with beautiful effect. This is indeed, a favoured nook — an epitome of the regions of the fair South, protected and sheltered by a felicitous arrangement of nature in the regions of the North. It is not less healthy than it is lovely and picturesque. Doctor James Clark, after a careful examination of the places on the English coast best suited to persons threatened with consumption, gives the preference to Torquay, in Devonshire, and the Undercliff in the Isle of Wight; and he seems to think that many invalids might find those benefits from climate close at home, which they seek in distant countries, and too often separated from all their friends. "The whole of the Undercliff," he says, "which presents in many places scenery of the greatest beauty, is dry and free from moist or impure exhalations, and is completely sheltered from the north, north-east, north-west, and west winds, by a range of lofty downs or hills of chalk and sandstone, which rise boldly from the upper termination of these terraces, in elevations varying from 400 to 600 and 700 feet; leaving Undercliff open only in a direct line to the south-east, and obliquely to the east and south-west winds, which rarely blow here with great force. * * * * Indeed it is matter of surprise to me, after having fully examined this favourite spot, that the advantages it possesses in so eminent a degree, in point of shelter and exposition, should have been so long over-



Ventnor Cove.

looked in a country like this, whose inhabitants, during the last century, have been traversing half the globe in search of climate. The physical structure of this singular district has been carefully investigated and described by the geologist, and the beauty of its scenery has been often dwelt upon by the tourist; but its far more important qualities, as a winter residence for the delicate invalid, seem scarcely to have attracted attention, even from the medical philosopher.* This inattention, however, no longer exist: within these last six or seven years medical men have turned their views towards that spot, and accommodations for invalids have been materially improved and increased. Dr. Clark, to whom the praise of much of this result is due, may live to see the accomplishment of his prediction, that "the Isle of Wight will have added to its title of the Garden of England, that of the British Madeira."

In this little strip of mild climate and dry soil, snow is rarely seen, and frosts are only partially felt. The myrtle, the geranium, and many other foreign plants, flourish luxuriantly in the open air all through the year. In the winter months the mean temperature of the atmosphere at eight o'clock in the morning is about 45°. But it is time to leave this "happy valley," where we have tarried long.

Continuing our excursion by sea, and keeping under the cliff, we soon come

to *SteePhill Cove*, an exceedingly pretty spot, but which, however, yields the palm of beauty and picturesqueness to *Ventnor Cove*, about a mile farther on, and near the eastern extremity of the Undercliff. Here the upland downs, the very edges of which are seen fringed with sheep and cattle, stand out in bold eminence; there is a cliff and a little stream that tumbles from it, after working a mill; lower down, on some shelving rocks, there is a group of fishermen's cottages, disposed as if a painter had had the arranging of them—nets, drying in the sun, baskets, oars, sails, "scattered all about," make up one of those marine pictures which can hardly be seen without delight; and finally, in front of these thatched cottages, there is a wide and beautiful beach, and then a far-spreading transparent sea.

Soon after turning the extremity of the Undercliff at *East Point*, above which towers the rugged and lofty hill of *Bonchurch*, we come to *Luccombe Chine*, which presents the picturesque features of rushing streams, hanging woods, scattered cottages, dark brown cliffs, and a fine sea-shore. About a mile farther on (to the N.E.) occurs another of these curious ravines, deeply cut through the cliff by an inconsiderable rill. This is called *Shanklin Chine*, and is the most beautiful and most frequently visited of all the chines. Seen from below, it appears as if the solid cliff had been rent in twain from top to bottom:—the mouth of the gap is very wide; its sides are on one hand almost perpendicular, on the other (to the right)

* The Influence of Climate in the Prevention and Cure of Chronic Diseases, &c.



[Shanklin.]

more shelving, and partially clad with grass and moss, bushes, and wild flowers, and shaded with tall graceful trees, among which, high over the head of the tourist who approaches by sea, are a few cottages, most picturesquely disposed. On this side a long rude flight of steps leads up the cliff to a quiet little inn. The beach below this chine affords a delightful walk when the tide is out.

We are now in *Sandown Bay*, which sweeps in a beautiful curve from Shanklin Chine to the Culver rocks. At the farther end of this bay, where the shores are flat and of easy access to an enemy, stands Sandown Fort, a small work erected in the time of Charles I., and near to it they show a quiet little cottage, which was once the residence of the turbulent and restless John Wilkes. The contrast between the nature of this secluded spot and the character of the man is rather interesting. According to his biographer, Wilkes bought Sandown Cottage, in Sandown Bay, in the parish of Brading, at the south-east end of the Isle of Wight, from Colonel (afterwards General) James Barker, of Stickworth, in the Isle of Wight, in May, 1788. He resided there a good deal till his death in December, 1797, and (according to this authority) by many improvements made it a very elegant abode. The cottage had been formerly in the occupation of the Earl of Winchilsea. Wilkes was accustomed to call it his *Villakin*, and he dated many of his letters from the place.

At the distance of about two miles from this spot, however, and to the south-

east of it, the vast chalky precipice, called *Culver Cliff*, shows itself with fine effect. A bed of coal, which is about three feet thick, and dips to the north, is seen at the foot of the precipice. This fossil occurs in some other parts of the Isle of Wight, but in such thin veins as not to answer the expense of working it. The summit of the cliff is about 400 feet above the level of the sea, and affords a fine view across the British Channel. The name of *Culver*, according to Mr. Pennant, is derived from the Anglo-Saxon *Culfre*, a pigeon, and applied here on account of the swarms of those birds which make the cliff their haunt.* The same writer tells us, that at certain seasons these pigeons make most amazing flights, going daily, in vast flocks, as far as the neighbourhood of Oxford, to feed on the turnip-fields, and returning again to Culver Cliff and the Freshwater Cliffs, where they pass the night. The Culver is also much frequented by *auks*, and other birds that love to nestle in the holes and crannies of precipices. In former times it was famous for a breed of hawks much used in the sport of hawking, and of so valuable a kind that in 1564 Queen Elizabeth issued her warrant to Richard Worsley, Esq., captain of the island, to make diligent search

* Another origin of the word has been suggested: upon all these eminences in former days, and especially in troublesome times, beacons are said to have been lighted. Charcoal was probably used here, and it may thence have been called 'Kohlen (vulgarly Kohl) Feuer Point.' Abridged to 'Kulfer,' it is now written 'Culver,' *c* being merely substituted for *f*.

after some that had been stolen, as also "for the persons faultie of this stealth and presumptuous attempt."

The grand scenery of these coasts terminates at Culver Cliff. Doubling the eastern extremity of the island, called the *Foreland*, and then coming to *Bembridge Point*, the tourist will find himself at the narrow mouth of *Brading Haven*, which is a shallow arm of the sea at high water; but a large and ugly puddle, with very little water in it, when the tide is out. Between 800 and 900 acres of marshy land are overflowed at every tide, and rendered useless. "My adventurous and noble countryman, Sir Hugh Middleton," says Pennant, "in the time of James I., in concert with Sir Bevis Thelwal, of the house of Bathavern, in Denbighshire, and page of the king's bedchamber, employed a number of Dutchmen to recover it from the sea by embankment; 7000*l.* were expended in the work, but partly by the badness of the soil, which proved a barren sand—partly by the choking of the drains for the fresh water—by the weeds and mud brought by the sea—but chiefly by a furious tide which made a breach in the bank, they were obliged to desist, and put a stop to their expensive project."

The small town of *BEMBRIDGE* stands near the mouth of *Brading Haven*, to the east; and the town and church of *BRADING* are picturesquely situated on the slope of a hill at the bottom of the haven. At a short distance from the mouth of *Brading Haven* is the pretty village of *St. HELEN's*, built round a

green near the sea; and from this point there is a succession of gentle, rural views as far as *Ryde*, which, a poor fishing village about eighty years ago, is now a considerable and beautiful town, surrounded, like *Cowes*, with groves, villas, and cottages. There is a fine view of *Calshot Castle*; of *Portsmouth*, at seven miles distance; of its harbour, often full of shipping; of *Spithead*, with men-of-war riding there; and, not to mention numerous other objects, of the distant spire of *Chichester Cathedral*. There is a good shore for bathing, with bathing-machines, warm baths, and all necessary comforts. The long bold pier of *RYDE*, which was begun in 1813 and finished in 1814, has been much admired, and it is a very great convenience, as passengers can land there at all times, whether the tide be high or low. In the interior of the town there are a few public edifices, built in a neat if not elegant style. After leaving *Ryde* we pass the hamlet and church of *BINSTAD*, the delightful little wood called *Quarr Copse*, in which are the ruins of an abbey, and then reach the mouth of *Fishbourne Creek*, through which a small river called the *Wootton* discharges itself into the sea. By the village of *FISHBOURNE*, which is sometimes called *Fish House*, there is a shipyard, where some of the light, fast, and elegant yachts belonging to the *Yacht Club* have been built. During the last war some gun-brigs, and, it is even said with pride, some frigates, were launched from these stocks. Above *Wootton Bridge* the banks of the river rise in

beautiful elevations, and are in some parts covered with little woods and copses to the very brink of the stream. At low water there is a practicable and very pleasant walk along the sea-shore from Ryde to Fishbourne. The village of **WOOTTON BRIDGE**, which is only partially seen from the mouth of the creek, is quiet and picturesque. From *Fishbourne Creek* to the harbour of Cowes, whence we started on this voyage, the coast is finely wooded; luxuriant forest-trees at some points seeming almost to grow out of the sea. This tract, indeed, excels all other parts of the island in woodland scenery, and forms a striking contrast with the bare, perpendicular, chalky cliffs we have recently passed. The view from the sea is refreshing beyond measure; and in the calm of a summer's evening the music of thousands of birds, nestling in those green recesses, floats over the waves, and is heard far from the shore, while the breath of flowers and fragrant plants sweetens the air, whither, to use an expression of Lord Bacon's, "it comes and goes like the warbling of music."

The sort of tour we have here been contemplating, in its perfection supposes the party to have a boat at their own disposal for three or four days, during which they can leisurely observe all the points on the coast, being sure to find a comfortable little inn every night. The halts may be made at Yarmouth, or at the Needles Hotel (which is close to Alum Bay, to the rocks, and to all the finest of the coast scenery); at the Undercliff; and then at Ryde or

Cowes. The trip may be prolonged, and easily shortened; but four days can hardly be spent in a more delightful manner by the lover of nature. If preferred, boats may be procured from point to point, those of Cowes and Yarmouth being particularly good. During the fine season of the year there are steam-boats, both from Cowes and Ryde, that make the voyage round the island in from eight to ten hours' time. This is a short, cheap, and delightful excursion for such as have not time for a more deliberate survey and examination of the beauties and phenomena of the Isle of Wight.

TOURS IN THE INTERIOR OF THE ISLAND.

We have noticed some of the principal scenes and objects on the coast of the Isle of Wight, and shall now proceed to describe some parts of the interior of the island, which offers to the tourist, and to the pedestrian in particular, such a number of beautiful short excursions as is scarcely to be met with elsewhere.

The general characteristics of the scenery by land are gracefulness and fertility, the central range of downs, though at some points bold, not attaining to sublimity. It offers that blending pasture and pastoral life, with arable land farming, and gardening, which is always so agreeable to the eye and imagination. In former times the isle was uncommonly rich in forest scenery, and although some of the woods have wholly disappeared to supply timber to the dockyards of Portsmouth, and others

have been much thinned, the country is still well sprinkled with trees. The almost invariable recurrence of fine woodland scenery, in connexion with glimpses of the sea, is a peculiar feature of the Isle of Wight. Water is not wanting. Besides the rivers Yar and Medina, which flow right across the island from south to north, and admit vessels with their snow-white sails far inland, among trees and hills, there are numerous streams and springs of less note scattered over the country. Indeed almost every valley has its flowing stream, the waters of which, from the natural percolation they undergo through limestone strata, are in general singularly pure and transparent. Villages and mills on the banks of these clear streams, with rustic bridges across their beds, and cattle lowing on their brinks, continually serve to make out those pleasant, cool, rural pictures which please even in words. From the small size of the island, and the comparative short course of the longest of these rivers and rivulets to the sea, they never overflow or spoil their banks. When many parts of England are oppressed with floods and inundations, the people of the Wight are wholly exempt from those evils, having all the benefit and beauty of flowing waters, without being liable to their devastation. With the exception of those streams which trickle through the chimes, at the south side of the island, all the waters of the Wight have a northerly course, and fall into the Solent sea that separates the island from the Hampshire coast.

The course of the main chain of hills, as we have already stated, is from east to west; it has in all its extent the character of downs, and presents in some parts far-spreading carpets of turf, and odorous thyme, and wild flowers that cannot be trod without delight to more senses than one.

FIRST EXCURSION.

Leaving Cowes, which we made our point of departure for the coast voyage, the tourist may walk or ride by a pleasant inland road to Newport, the capital, which is situated almost in the very centre of the island; or he may go to that town by water, ascending the river Medina, which is called *Mede* in ancient deeds, probably from the Latin *medium* (middle), the river dividing the island in the midst. (This particular stream, we may mention, *en passant*, abounds near its mouth with flat-fish and excellent oysters.) From Cowes to Newport, by land, is about four miles and a half, and as the river does not wind much, the ascent by water is very little more. The tide flows up almost to Newport bridge, and carries large barges to the quay of the town, which is built at a point in front of Newport, where another stream forms its junction with the Medina. Here the fertile, pleasant valley of the river, chequered with gardens and groves, the neat, thriving town, the vessels loading or unloading, and the fertile hills that encircle the whole, afford a scene which is at once tranquil and animated.

NEWPORT, the capital, is the most

ancient existing town of the island, and is still the place that has the greatest trade and the largest fixed population ; for Cowes and Ryde are more the resorts of pleasure, and lose more than half of their occupants at the departure of summer. The agriculturist ships his corn and other produce on the Medina, which bears it down to the sea-port at Cowes, and the returning barges bring articles of manufacture, coals, iron, timber, tea, coffee, and whatever else may be wanted, back to Newport, which is a central depot, and furnishes nearly all the interior and back of the island. Sir Richard Worsley tells us that in his time, on every Saturday (the principal market-day), no fewer than 200 waggon loads of different kinds of grain were brought into Newport, amounting to 1400 or 1500 quarters; great part of which was made on the island into flour or malt, or biscuit for the navy, and the rest exported. The present population of Newport is about 4500 souls. The town is situated on a very easy ascent of ground, and chiefly disposed in three parallel streets in length, and as many in breadth. At the points where these streets intersect, there are three squares which serve as market-places, but which have been much encroached upon by recent builders. The dwelling-houses, generally built of brick, are neat and convenient, without any pretension to grandeur or elegance. The town, on the whole, notwithstanding its antiquity, has a modern air, but there are a few old buildings in it. The Free Grammar School was erected in 1619, in the reign

of James I., and here, in 1648, James's son, the first Charles, then a prisoner at Carisbrook Castle, entered upon the remarkable treaty with the commissioners from Parliament, which goes by the name of the treaty of Newport. The school-room, in which the conferences that lasted forty days were held, is about fifty feet long, and internally has undergone slight alteration since the time when its walls echoed the voices of the unfortunate Charles and his advisers, of Hollis, Vane, Glyn, and the rest of those commissioners who eventually left the island with a firm determination to bring the king's head to the scaffold.

In the church, an old but frequently repaired edifice, built originally in the year 1172, towards the end of the reign of Henry II., and dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, (whose murder and canonization were then recent events,) was discovered, in 1793, the coffin of Charles's second daughter, the Lady Elizabeth Stuart, who died a prisoner in Carisbrook Castle, about a year and seven months after her father's execution at Whitehall. According to the royalist party of the time, she was poisoned, but there is no more truth in this report (usual with all such personages and at such times) than there is in the odd story that the republicans once intended to bind her highness apprentice to a button-maker. Elizabeth was only fifteen years of age, nearly three of which she had passed in confinement. The body was inclosed in a leaden coffin, which 'had' this legible inscrip-

tion :—ELIZABETH 2D DAUGHTER OF YE LATE KING CHARLES DECED. SEPT 8TH MDCL. The spot was originally marked by a small stone, bearing the initials E. S., but soon after the discovery of the vault a small brass plate with a brief inscription was placed over it, inlaid in the floor of the church just within the screen. In another part of the church is a curious sculptured monument to Sir Edward Horsey, a Captain of the Wight in the time of Queen Elizabeth. Sir Edward was a brave and fortunate commander, by sea and by land. He was much beloved by the favourite, the Earl of Leicester, who intrusted him with the secret of his clandestine marriage with Lady Douglas Sheffield, whom the knight gave away in person. This circumstance, however, did not prevent his denying or concealing all knowledge of the nuptials when the worthless earl fancied another fair one. In reward for services like these the favourite gave him the captaincy of the island; and though foully obtained, Sir Edward discharged his trust very much to the satisfaction of the islanders. It is recorded of him that he stocked the country with game, and gave a young lamb for every live hare brought into it that was fit for breeding.

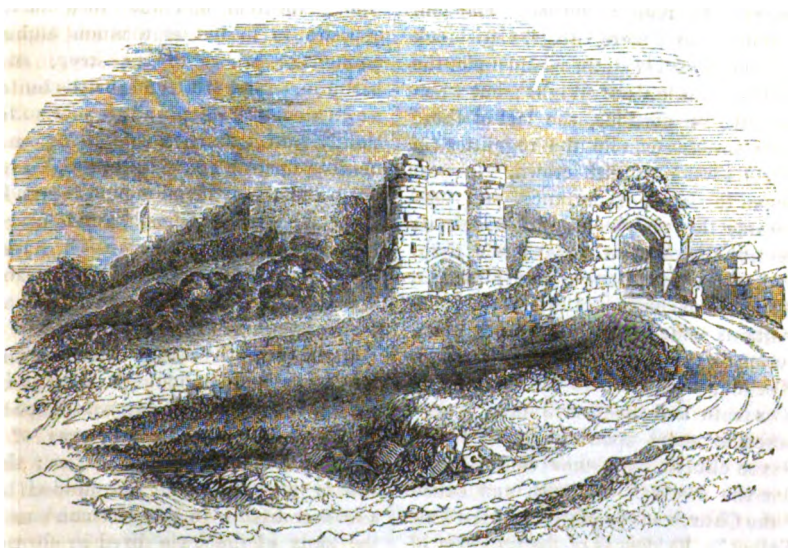
The market-house and Town Hall of Newport form, together, a building of some importance, and though the architecture is somewhat open to criticism, the edifice is neat if not elegant. It was begun in the year 1814, finished in 1816, and cost 10,000*l*. Within the Hall is

still held a *Curia Militum*, or Knight's court (a curious relic of the olden time) in which the governor's deputy or steward presides; the court having jurisdiction in all civil matters where less than the value of 40*s*. is involved, in every part of the island, with the exception of the borough of Newport. The founder of this feudal court is supposed to have been the first Norman Lord of Wight, and the judges, who decide without a jury, are all such as hold a knight's fee from the lord. A still greater ornament to Newport is the 'Isle of Wight Institution,' an elegant edifice, erected by subscription in 1811, and now well furnished with books and periodical publications. The town has also a 'Mechanics' Institution,' and other societies for the promotion of literature and education. The House of Industry, in the vicinity of Newport, is a spacious building, founded soon after the year 1770, for the accommodation and education of the poor of the island. Eighty acres of productive land are attached to it, divided into fields and gardens, which are cultivated by the inmates. The house can afford proper accommodation for 1000. On the edge of King's Forest, or Parkhurst, not far from the House of Industry, are the Albany barracks, with an excellent military hospital and grounds attached to them. The barracks were begun at the end of the year 1798, and were almost constantly occupied during the last war. The hospital of the barracks is now appropriated as a prison on a large scale for the reformation of juvenile criminals.

The fair of Newport, which collects people from all parts of the island, is celebrated for its display of female beauty, which, as we mentioned, is a very general quality in the Isle of Wight. In the olden time, however, not only was this claim disallowed, but other imputations were maliciously cast upon the Wight by its neighbours. The classification is curious. The worthy Sir John Oglander, who began to write a history of his native place in 1615, says indignantly—"It is, and hath been, a tax laid on this island, that it never produces any extraordinary fair handsome woman, nor a man of any super-eminent gifts in wit or wisdom, or—a

horse excellent for goodness. Now I can answer that no part of England, in general, the quantity considered, hath produced more exquisite in either species than this island."

From the town of Newport, where the tourist will find several comfortable inns, there are coaches which go daily to and return from Cowes and Ryde at stated hours. These short journeys afford a great variety of pleasing scenery, and may be recommended to those who have little time for seeing the island. No one, however, should turn back from Newport without seeing Carisbrook, which is only a mile and a half from the town, and the most memorable place in the



[Carisbrook Castle.]

whole island. A beautiful public promenade, called the Mall, leads nearly all the way from the town to the village.

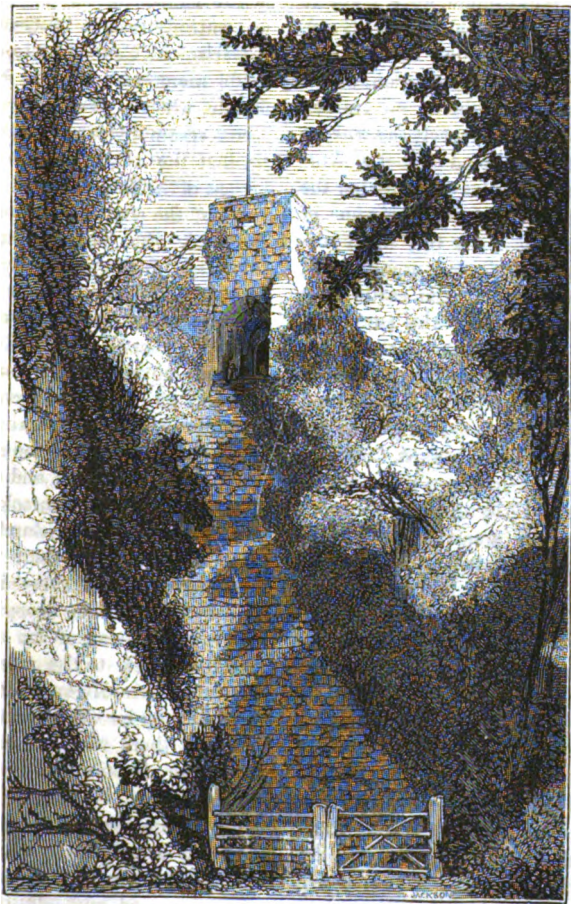
The approach to CARISBROOK, with its old romantic castle (one of the most ancient in these kingdoms) towering high above it, is exceedingly picturesque, and highly interesting from historical associations. The village and the church, with its steeple, Gothic arches, and embattled towers, are prettily situated on the slope of an ascending hollow or dell which is backed by the downs, and richly studded with trees, from the verdure of which the light blue smoke of the cottagers' fires is seen rising with that effect which, though constantly described both by pen and pencil, is never observed in reality without emotion. Though now a mere village, Carisbrook was the capital of all the island under the independent lords of Wight; but when Isabella de Fortibus, the last of those petty sovereigns, sold the regalities (in 1291) to the English crown, Newport began to rise in importance, and soon became the metropolis, for which its central situation on a navigable river, and other advantages, best suited it. The present church of Carisbrook, which contains some uncouth sculpture, and a curious epitaph in memory of Captain Keeling, a naval hero of the time of Elizabeth and the first James, is supposed to stand upon the ground of a Saxon church built some centuries before the Norman conquest, and called "the Church of the Manner of the Fair Valley." Evidences of the rude arts of the Saxons were discovered many years

ago near some of the fine springs of excellent water that exist in and near to the village. The church of Carisbrook is remarkable for having eight choice bells, which, according to one of the local historians, "are perhaps as musical bells as were ever cast." Adjoining to the church, which stands on a gentle eminence, are the ruins of a priory of Cistercian monks, founded soon after the Norman conquest by Fitz-Osborne Earl of Hereford, of whom we have spoken in a preceding page. The paltry remains of this once extensive and stately edifice are now converted into sheds and stables dependent on a farmhouse hard by. There is scarcely enough of the priory left to make a picturesque ruin. Not so of the castle which stands opposite to it, but on a much higher eminence; where towers, keep, and barbican, ramparts and battlements, frown along the steep, and are just sufficiently ruined and ivy-clad to be eminently romantic and picturesque. The keep, and the artificial mound it stands on, which lies to the north, and is much higher than the ground-plan of the rest of the fortress, are generally supposed to have been raised by the Saxons as early as the sixth century.

In the eleventh century Fitz-Osborne, the Norman, included this portion in his larger castle, which covered the space of an acre and a half, and was of a square form, with rounded angles; the base of the whole being surrounded by a fosse or ditch. In this Norman castle the lords of that race lived in all the splendour and with all the tyranny of

those times. All lands were held of it, and on condition of serving it and defending it at all times from the enemy. Hence it was called the "Honour of Carisbrook."

Fitz-Osborne's castle was repaired and enlarged during the reign of Richard II., by Montacute, Earl of Salisbury; and it was again enlarged, and some parts wholly rebuilt by Lord Widville in the time of



[Carisbrook Castle—The Keep.]

Edward IV., when the noble main gateway, and the great round towers which flank it, were erected. Extensive additions were subsequently made; the last by Queen Elizabeth, when the outer walls, which still remain, were made to enclose no less than twenty acres of land. These works were erected according to the modern rules of fortification, under the direction of Genebella, an Italian, who is said (we can scarcely see why) to have imitated the famed citadel of Antwerp. On an attentive examination the tourist will detect several specimens of the Norman age, and a very small portion of what seems Saxon architecture, on the western side of the castle next the entrance. Among the curiosities pointed out by the guides to the stranger's notice are two wells—the one in the centre of the keep, said to have been 300 feet deep, but now partially filled up; the other in the castle-yard, 200 feet deep, where water is drawn up by means of a wheel, turned by an ass. The sober quadruped works precisely in the same fashion as did the dogs called "turnspits" in our kitchens in former times. The wheel is broad and hollow, and furnished inside with steps, or projecting pieces of wood; the ass is introduced into the interior of the wheel, and by treading from one of these steps to another turns it round, and makes the wheel act like a windlass. Pennant, Gilpin, Hassel, and our other tourists of the last century, speak of a poor donkey that performed this duty uninterruptedly for the surprising long space of forty years, and was then turned out to enjoy his old

age in the paddock. This second well is also famed for having the property of echoing the fall of a pin in a most singular manner.

The most modern part of the castle is the chapel of St. Nicholas, which was entirely rebuilt by George II.

Carisbrook Castle was in one instance made memorable by the heroism of a female, whose adventures in some respects resembled those of the celebrated royalist the Countess of Derby, and Queen of the Isle of Man. At an early stage of the civil war, Jerome, Earl of Portland, who had been governor for Charles I. during many years, was removed by Parliament as a Catholic, or as one who at least was a favourer of popery. Shortly after, when he was suddenly imprisoned in London on this ground, and further accused by the Commons of a thoughtless and profligate expenditure of public money in ammunition, entertainments, and the drinking of loyal toasts in Carisbrook, the principal inhabitants of the island drew up a petition in favour of their "noble and much honoured and beloved captain and governor," in which, dropping all allusion to his wasting of the ammunition, &c., they stuck to the more important question of his religious faith, declaring that not only he was a good Protestant, but that there was not one professed Papist, or favourer of Papacy, in the whole Isle of Wight. This petition being disregarded by Parliament, they drew up a spirited remonstrance, in which they spoke of defending themselves by arms, and admitting no new

governor that was not appointed by the king. Twenty-four knights and squires signed this paper, but the people were very differently inclined ; and they were led by Moses Read, the mayor of Newport, who declared in favour of Parliament, and transmitted a representation on the great danger accruing to the state from the Countess of Portland being allowed to continue in the castle, and retain Colonel Brett there as her warden. Read soon received orders to seize the fortress, and secure Colonel Brett, the countess, her five children, and other relatives who had taken shelter within the walls : and he marched upon Carisbrook with the militia of Newport, and 400 sailors drawn from the vessels at anchor in the island. The garrison of the old castle did not exceed twenty men, but the countess resolved not to surrender it except on honourable conditions. At the approach of the force from Newport, with a lighted match in her hand she walked deliberately to one of the bastions, declaring she would fire the first cannon at the foe. Moses Read, who had expected no resistance, soon came to terms with the bold countess, and the castle was surrendered on conditions. The countess was soon afterwards removed from the island. No other attempt was made at resistance, and though somewhat agitated by Charles's residence in Carisbrook a few years later, the Wight remained enviably tranquil during the whole of the civil war. This fortunate circumstance invited many families from the neighbouring counties which were exposed to

the horrors of warfare, to go and settle there ; in consequence of which the rents of farms rose in proportion of from 20*l.* to 100*l.*, and did not find their ordinary level until the Restoration.*

The most memorable incident in the history of Carisbrook Castle is the detention here of King Charles I. the year before his execution. The unfortunate monarch fled from Hampton Court on the 5th of November, 1647, attended by two confidential servants, but without having determined upon any particular place in which to take refuge. They rode all night, and finding themselves at day-break in the New Forest in Hampshire, it was resolved to repair to Titchfield, a seat of the Earl of Southampton, in the neighbourhood of which they were. This, however, was not a place in which his majesty could remain in security ; and, after some deliberation, it was deemed best to send a message to Colonel Hammond, the Governor of the Isle of Wight, intimating the king's desire to avail himself of his protection. Charles thought that he might expect to find a friend in the colonel, who was the nephew of his chaplain, Dr. Henry Hammond ; but he was, in fact, a devoted partisan of Cromwell, through whose interest he had married a daughter of Hampden, and had also obtained his post of governor at this station. At first, however, on receiving the king into Carisbrook Castle, he treated him as a guest rather than as a prisoner—permit-

* Sir R. Worsley's History.

ting him to ride wherever he chose, and to receive all who desired to see him. It was not till after some time that his movements were subjected to any restriction. Hammond then informed him that orders had been sent down for the instant dismissal of all his attendants; and they were accordingly compelled to take their leave the day following. As soon as they were gone, it was further intimated to the unhappy king that he must for the future consider himself as a prisoner within the walls of the castle. He was still, however, allowed as much freedom as was compatible with this species of confinement—being permitted to walk on the ramparts, and to amuse himself in a bowling-green, which Hammond caused to be formed for that purpose in a part of the castle-yard. He usually indulged himself in the former exercise in the morning, and in the latter in the afternoon. Much of his leisure was also occupied in reading; his favourite books being the Bible, the works of Hooker, Bishop Andrews, and Dr. Hammond, Herbert's Poems, the Jerusalem Delivered of Tasso, in the original, and Fairfax's translation of that poem, Ariosto, and Spenser's Fairy Queen. Many persons, it would appear, also still contrived to gain admission to his presence, under the pretext of desiring to be touched for the king's evil. The condition in which he was kept, however, was now undisguisedly that of a prisoner; and his thoughts as well as those of his friends were naturally directed to the means by which he might effect his escape. The several attempts which he

made for this purpose may be found detailed in the '*Threnodia Carolina*' of Sir Thomas Herbert, and still more minutely in Sir Richard Worsley's History of the Isle of Wight, where many particulars are published for the first time from manuscript documents. The first attempt was made on the 29th of December, and failed through the mismanagement of its conductor Capt. Burley, the captain of Yarmouth Castle, who was besides so unfortunate as to be himself apprehended and executed for his share in the enterprise. To Charles the only result was increased severity of treatment and greater watchfulness on the part of his jailors. Some time after, at the suggestion of a person of the name of Firebrace, who had contrived to find access to him by bribing the sentinels, he was induced to endeavour to escape from his window during the night; but after getting his head through the bars he could not force through the rest of his body. Aqua fortis and files were then conveyed to him; but by this time the governor had obtained some intimation of his former attempt; and when, after having destroyed one of the bars, the king was about to pass through the opening, he observed a number of people on the watch below, and instantly retired to bed. It is said that a Major Rolfe, who happened at the time to have charge of the castle, declared he was ready to have shot his majesty should he have actually commenced making his descent. After these repeated failures in the effort to obtain his liberty, Charles so completely

abandoned himself to despair as even to neglect his person, allowing both his hair and his beard to remain unclipped, and uncombed, till his appearance became at last savage and desolate in the extreme. In this state he remained till the 18th of September, 1648, when he was permitted to remove to Newport to confer with commissioners appointed for that purpose by the parliament, on giving his promise that he would not make use of the opportunity to attempt his escape. On the 29th of November he was seized here by a party of soldiers, and conveyed to Hurst Castle, on the coast of Hamp-

shire, which he left only to undergo his trial and execution about six weeks after. The apartments in which he was confined at Carisbrook Castle are now in ruins—but a window is still pointed out as that by which he made the several attempts that have just been related to regain his liberty. This part of the castle is on the left hand upon entering the first court from the gate. A short distance further on, and on the same side, are the governor's apartments, almost the only portion of the interior of the castle which is now in a state of repair.



[Carisbrook Castle : the Window from which Charles I. attempted to escape.]

It was subsequently to the execution of Charles (for he had not the pleasure of their society there), that his two youngest children, the Duke of Gloucester and the Princess Elizabeth, of whom we have spoken in describing Newport Church, became inmates of Carisbrook Castle. They at first lived with the Countess of Leicester at Penshurst, in Kent, where Parliament allowed 3000*l.* a-year for their maintenance. When they were removed to this castle, the young Duke was attended by his tutor, one Mr. Lovel, "an honest man," as Clarendon calls him, and both he and his sister were humanely treated. One of their greatest hardships, next to their loss of liberty, appears to have been the Parliament's order, "That no person should be permitted to kiss their hands, and that they should not be otherwise treated than as the children of a gentleman." Mildmay, who was then captain of the castle, observed this order very exactly, so that the Duke was never called by any other style than Master Harry. Two years after the death of his sister Elizabeth, the young duke was liberated by the advice and influence of Cromwell, who caused 500*l.* to be paid by the Treasury to defray the expenses of removing him to the continent—the only condition imposed being that he should sail directly from the Isle of Wight, and not touch at any part of the English coast.

After the removal of the Duke of Gloucester, the Commonwealth continued to use Carisbrook Castle as a state-prison. One of the most remarkable of

the inmates of Carisbrook, at a somewhat later period of the Commonwealth, was Sir William Davenant, the poet, and *god-son* (at least) of Shakspeare. Davenant had adhered to the court, and fought repeatedly in the field against the Parliamentary forces. On the downfall of his party he fled beyond seas, where he was put to strange shifts, and derived all the help he could from a pretty apparent want of conscience. According to old Aubrey, when at Paris, "He laid an ingenious design to carry a considerable number of artificers, chiefly weavers, from thence to Virginia, and by Mary, the Queen-Mother's means, he got favour from the King of France to go into the prisons and pick and choose; so when the poor wretches understood what his design was, they cried *uno ore* (with one voice) '*Tous Tisserans*'—We are all weavers! Well, he took thirty-six, as I remember, and not more, and shipped them; and as he was on his voyage to Virginia, he and his weavers were all taken by the ships then belonging to the Parliament of England. The French slaves I suppose they sold, but Sir William was brought prisoner to England: whether he was first a prisoner at Carisbrook Castle in the Isle of Wight, or at the Tower of London, I have forgotten. He was a prisoner at both. His '*Gondibert*', 4to., was finished at Carisbrook Castle. He expected no mercy from the Parliament, and had no hope of escaping with

* A long poem with some fine passages, but tedious as a whole.

his life. He was saved, however, by the intervention, according to one account, of two aldermen in his favour, according to another by the wit of Henry Martin."

The fine old hunting forest, called *Parkhurst*, or *Alvington*, or the *King's Forest*, which extended over nearly 4000 acres of land, coming close up to Newport and Carisbrook, must have greatly added to the variety and beauty of the scenery. It was so closely wooded, that according to tradition a squirrel could have leaped through it from end to end, and from side to side, without ever being obliged to touch the ground. It was first emparked during the reign of William the Conqueror, and was afterwards much frequented by our Norman princes, who sallying from the castle with their fierce but picturesque retinues, made the greenwood ring with bound and horn. Like the new Forest, Windsor, and the rest of the royal chases, it had its warden, its ranger, and under-rangers. It is now so thoroughly cleared and cut down, that scarcely anything remains but brushwood. It formerly bordered on another forest called *Northwood*, which covered the left bank of the Medina, and stretched almost to the spot where the town of West Cowes now stands. The old names are still retained, though nothing can well be less like forests than the two places. The walks through Parkhurst are, however, extremely pleasant. There is one delicious spot called *Park Cross*, which combines some of the finest features of a gentle rural landscape. There are

smiling valleys sprinkled with cottages, pools, and running waters in abundance; and high above all there is a noble range of downs. The downs here, as in most other parts of the island, exhibit a vast number of those circular marks on the grass which philosophers have not yet satisfactorily accounted for, and which peasants call Fairy-rings,

————— When

At fall of eve, the Fairy people throng
In various game and revelry to pass
The summer night, as village stories tell.

SECOND EXCURSION.

Having briefly described the immediate neighbourhood of Carisbrook and Newport, we may now point out a few longer excursions, each of which will give good employment for a whole day or more. For convenience of arrangement we will make Newport our centre and general point of departure and return.

Proceeding by *Carisbrook* the tourist will find himself, after a short ride or walk, at *Gatcombe*, a handsome modern house, formerly the seat of one of the Worsleys, which lies in a snug, sheltered bottom, and with an adjacent church, beautiful groves, a little lake, and a purling stream, makes up an agreeable picture.

About three miles farther on, to the south-east, is the village of GODSHILL, similarly situated, and equally pleasing. The church, which was one of the six in the island given by Fitz-Osborne to the Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy, stands on an eminence, insulated by a rich wooded

dell, and shows its tower-steeple afar off. It contains the tombs of the Worsleys (whose seat we are now approaching), from the fifteenth to the nineteenth century, as well as the monuments of some of the Leighs of Derbyshire and the Wight, whose daughters, by intermarrying with them, made the Worsleys the lords of these fair domains.

A wild but not uncommon tradition is told to account for the elevated situation of Godshill church. The foundation was laid at the foot of the steep hill, and the men began to build there, but the next morning, on returning to their labours, they found that all the stones and other materials had been removed during the night and placed at the top of the hill. They recommenced their work below, but the next day all was gone, and this continued until they took the hint, and built upon the spot indicated to them by invisible hands, and by so doing added much to the beauty of the scene. Its elevated situation, however, has more than once exposed the church to danger. In 1778 it was struck by lightning, which so injured the old building that a part of it fell in the following year.

In the quiet little village beneath the church there is a grammar school, which was founded and endowed above 200 years ago by one of the Worsleys. The name of this family occurs so often, and, in general, is connected with such agreeable and praiseworthy objects, that it is almost painful to reflect it should now be extinct in the island.

APPULDERCOMBE, which has long

been the seat of the ancient and honourable family of Worsley, is beautifully situated about a mile to the south of Godshill. The park, adorned with fine beech trees and venerable oaks, rises in noble slopes behind the house, and terminates in some lofty downs which command extensive prospects. On the most elevated point there is an obelisk of Cornish granite, 70 feet high, erected in 1774 to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley, the founder of the present house, by his grandson Sir Richard, the last Baronet. About a mile distant, on the summit of a rocky hill, are the ruins of a castle, called Cooke's Castle. The mansion itself, which stands on the site of a very old manor-house, of which we have seen a drawing, is comparatively modern, having been begun in 1710 by Sir Robert Worsley, who left it in a very incomplete state, and finished by his grandson many years after. Here was written the history of the island to which we have frequently referred. The book, which bears the name of Sir Richard, was in fact the production of three successive generations of the Worsleys. It was begun by Sir Robert, who died in 1747, continued by his son, Sir Thomas, and finished and published by his grandson, Sir Richard, in 1781. We confess that, for ourselves, it is not without a pleasing interest we see the love of their native place, and the desire of illustrating it, thus descend from father to son. But the house of Appuldercombe contains material and beautiful objects of art and antiquity to interest the tourist. There is a large collection of paintings,

drawings, statues, and bass-relievi. Some of the pictures, particularly the historical portraits, were in the old manor-house for many generations, and were presented to the Worsleys by the princes and great personages they represent. The sculptures and drawings were collected by Sir Richard, the last Baronet, who, in the course of the years 1785-86 and 87, made an extensive tour through Italy, Greece, Egypt, and Turkey, and took with him able artists, who made the drawings and views of the most interesting places under his own inspection. Permission to see these treasures is readily obtained by applying to Mr. Thomas Sewell, at Newport. Sir Richard printed a *catalogue raisonné* of his collections, and afterwards a larger work called "Museum Worsleianum," which contains numerous engravings with descriptions. This gentleman died here, at his birth-place, about thirty-five years ago. He left no children, but was succeeded by his sister, whose daughter, by her marriage, carried the mansion and estates of Appuldercombe to the Earl of Yarborough, the present proprietor.

On leaving APPULDERCOMBE, the tourist soon reaches the *Undercliff* and the village at *Ventnor Cove*. A little to the south-west of Ventnor Cove is *Steeptill*, and about a mile and a half farther on the romantic village of St. LAWRENCE, with its old miniature church, which is considered to be the smallest building of the kind in these kingdoms. It is only twenty feet long and twelve wide, and is probably of Saxon origin. At this point, and

still more from the heights behind St. Lawrence, all the beauties of the Undercliff are seen to great advantage. Continuing the route to the west, with the sea constantly in view, and passing through Mirables, we soon reach Sand Rock, where, among other pleasant things, there is an hotel which looks more like a gentleman's villa than a place of public entertainment, and affords some magnificent seaward views. A romantic path which leads through rocks and fallen cliffs—the huge *debris* of landslips, terminates at Sand Rock spring, about a mile from the hotel, which is about 150 feet above the level of the sea-shore. Over the spring, which gushes out in a singularly wild spot, there is a pretty cottage, erected by a surgeon of Newport, who discovered the source, or made its virtues known, in the year 1808. From the spring it is only a short walk to Black-Gang Chine.

Chalybeate springs, reputed to have more or less medicinal virtue, occur in different parts of the island. According to an analysis made by Dr. Marcet, the Sand Rock spring contains an unusual proportion of alum and iron, held in solution by sulphuric acid. Dr. Lempriere, an army physician, who employed these waters extensively at the depot, an invalid hospital established at Parkhurst during the last war, reported that he found them eminently useful in chronic cases of debility. At PITLAND, in the parish of Chale, at the distance of not more than half a mile from Sand Rock, there is a spring impregnated with sulphur, which is said to be useful in

cutaneous disorders. As in many other cases, the virtue of these mineral waters may be somewhat exaggerated, but their romantic situation, the exercise to which they woo the invalid, the quiet of the country, and the mild and pure air breathed at them, can hardly fail to produce some beneficial effects. The water of the Pitland spring, while flowing, is pure and transparent; but on stagnating it deposits a white sediment as thick as cream. Cattle drink it without any repugnance. Another mineral spring at Shanklin was discovered, or brought into notice by Dr. Fraser, a physician to Charles II., and was for some time much resorted to.

Sand Rock Hotel, or the humbler, but not less comfortable little inn at NITTON, a pretty village close at hand at the foot of St. Catherine's Down, the highest part of the island, may serve as a resting place and centre of observation for days, as all the most beautiful and striking scenes of the island are within short distances. But we, in pursuance of our plan, must return to Newport, in order to find room for the description of some other places in opposite directions.

To vary the road, after again reaching Appuldercombe, the traveller may strike off by a beautiful road to the right, which, after passing through the village of NEWCHURCH and some rich valleys, leads to *Arreton Downs*, whence the views of the interior of the island are extensive, and almost perfect in their kind. Corn-fields, meadows, and orchards, with a gentle little river wind-

ing among them, and cattle seen here and there; shelving heaths, spotted with white flocks; villages and village spires, hamlets, and mansions; bold hills and rocks; and, afar off, the blue waves of the ocean, are the main features of the scenery, to which are added many minuter and inexpressible graces. On the downs of Arreton the tourist will see two large sepulchral barrows, which, as well as several others on the island, are generally referred to the period of the Danish invasion, and supposed to mark the spots where some of the leaders of those fierce depredators were interred.

The village of ARRETTON, at the western end of the downs, is only three miles from Newport, and its scattered cottages line the side of the road for half of that distance. The neatness of these rural abodes, and the prosperous look of their inhabitants, who are nearly all cultivators of the soil, sufficiently show that this is the most fertile part of the Isle of Wight.

THIRD EXCURSION.

Another delightful excursion from Newport is in the direction of *Fern Hill* and *Wootton Bridge*, which both lie on the left bank of the Wootton river near to the point where it flows into *Fishbourne Creek*.

The village of WOOTTON BRIDGE is one of the prettiest in the island. About two miles from it, on the little promontory that lies between the Medina river and Fishbourne Creek, and on the shore of the Solent strait, there is a place

called "*King's Key*," where King John is said to have landed when he came to conceal himself from his barons in the Isle of Wight. The fact of this singular concealment is perfectly authentic. While on the field of Runnemed, and in the very act of signing the charter, John was devising the means of subverting all its provisions and making himself again the absolute, unchecked sovereign he had been. His envy and spite were increased by finding that after that imposing ceremony only seven gentlemen attended him, all the rest following the confederated barons. Withdrawing rapidly to Southampton, he privately dispatched letters by night to some of his trustiest castellans, enjoining them to victual and strongly fortify their castles, and the next morning before daybreak he very secretly retired to the Isle of Wight, where he remained about three months, leading, according to the old chronicler Grafton, "a solitary life among ryvers and fishermen."* Holinshed says, "In which meantime many things were reported of him; some calling him a fisher, some a merchant, and some a pirate and rover. And many (for that no certain news could be heard of him) judged that he was either drowned or dead by some other means."† It was soon, however, made manifest that John was neither dead nor sleeping. Some of his acts, while lurking in the island and the neighbouring cinque ports, as nearly resembling piracy as could be; but that time

was chiefly employed in winning over the seamen of England, and in petitioning and waiting for troops from abroad, with which to crush the barons. Seeking redress both by the spiritual and temporal sword, he sent messengers to the pope, and to princes on the continent. The first sent him bulls and a threat of excommunication to hurl at Magna Charta and his barons; the others arms and soldiers; "and from Flanders, Gascony, Brabant, and other parts, such competent aids came in, as encouraged the king (after three months' secrecy and retiring) to show himself in the face of his enemies."*

In the fine season of the year a passage boat goes and returns between Wootton Bridge and Portsmouth every day. The creek and river admit shipping up to the village, and at high water they singularly add to the beauty of the spot, flowing full among wooded hills and green pastures. A very picturesque mill projects into the river, and several of the houses of the village little above high-water mark are reflected with the trees and orchards that stand about them in the tranquil stream. From *Wootton Common* there is a fine view inland, which is backed by the downs, and comprises many villas and pretty cottages. The common is now inclosed. The mansion at *Fern Hill*, which has a graceful Saracenic air, though much injured by the huge excrescence of a high heavy tower, was built by the late Duke of Bolton when he was governor of the

* Grafton's '*Chronicle at Large*,' &c.

† *Chronicle*, vol. iii. p. 323.

* Speed, book 9, chap. 8.

Wight. Noble trees rise in the rear of the house, the evergreens and shrubs of the plantation are magnificent, and the grounds are all laid out in excellent taste. This, though there are some exceptions, is generally the case in the island, the stately country seats and villas of which are too many to be enumerated. *Norris Castle*, the seat of Lord G. Seymour, *East Cowes Castle*, the seat of the Earl of Shannon, *St. Clare's*, *Fairy Hill*, and *St. John's*, will all command attention, and are all situated on this, the north-eastern side of the island, at short distances from each other, and from the pleasant village of Wootton Bridge.

Crossing the river at Wootton Bridge, the tourist will find himself under a beautiful elevation called *Kite Hill*, which is crowned by another villa; and then keeping to the right, he will soon approach the Solent strait and the ruins of *Old Quarr Abbey*. Another and delightful way of making this short progress from Wootton Bridge, is to descend the river and Fishbourne Creek in a boat, and then land at the mouth of the creek, near to which the ruins are situated. In this way the banks of the stream, the opening sea, the ship-yard and village of Fish-house are seen to great advantage. At the turn of the tide, just as the full stream begins to return to the ocean, the little skiff may be allowed to float down with it, giving time to admire all it passes in its course.

The walk across smooth lawns, and through shady copses to QUARR ABBEY,

on a fine summer morning or evening, is delicious. This ancient abbey, like Carisbrook Priory, has been almost obliterated by the hand of man, and the tourist will look in vain for the bold arch, the shafted oriel, the tall chancel, and all those things which look so picturesque in our better-preserved ecclesiastical ruins. The abbey derived its name from the stone-quarries in its neighbourhood, which were once held in very great repute. Here was dug a principal part of the stone of which Winchester Cathedral was built, as appears by a grant made by William Rufus to Walkelyn, Bishop of Winchester, and by the register of Winchester, wherein it is recorded that William of Wykeham, the great church architect of the middle ages, used it in all the body of this cathedral. Hence it should seem that the quarries of Portland, that furnish a harder and much better stone, were not then known. The Quarr stone is still quarried, and is in very common use. It varies in quality, some of it being hard and durable; the inferior sort, which is soft, porous, and easily reduced to lime, is employed in the garden-walls, outhouses and cottages in the neighbourhood.

A farm-house occupies what seems to have been the centre of the old abbey; a wall, covered with ivy, is supposed to be part of the eastern end of the church; and the refectory, the best-preserved part of the ruins, is now turned into a barn. Traces of a wall, which is said, when perfect, to have enclosed thirty acres of ground that formed the pre-

cinct of the abbey, may be found in low, broken, and detached masses; and here and there, within the space, there are some fragments of mean arches. This once-famous abbey, which was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and tenanted by Cistercian or White Friars, was founded in 1132, during the reign of Henry I., by Baldwin de Rivers, Earl of Devon, and Richard his son, who were both buried within its walls. In monkish Latin it was called *Quarriera*, and thence Quarrier, and at last Quarr.

From Quarr Abbey a pleasant footpath, through copees and an undulating wooded country, leads to the churchyard of **BINSTRAD**; and a little farther on is the town of **RYDE**. Striking inland, a pleasant road, or a succession of footpaths (if the pedestrian seek them), will convey the tourist to **BRADING**, another picturesque village, which we partly described in making the voyage round the coasts of the island. Brading Church, which is supposed to occupy the site of the first Christian place of worship that was erected in the island (in 704), is a very old and, for this island, a very large church, having a body, chancel, and side aisles, with massy, round pillars, and curious pointed arches. It contains some antique tombs, and the family chapel and burying-place of the Oglanders, the oldest existing family in the island, whose founder, Richard Okelandro, came over with William the Conqueror, and whose large, old family mansion, called Nunwell, stands close to the village. The worthy knight Sir John, of whose

quaint history of the Isle of Wight (the manuscript of which was consulted and used by the Worsleys), we have already made honourable mention, lies entombed here among a long line of predecessors and successors. In Brading Church there is the celebrated epitaph which has become familiar to every lover of music, by being selected by Dr. Calcott for one of his most celebrated compositions. The words are beautiful, and we therefore quote them :

“ Forgive, blest shade ! the tributary tear
That mourns thy exit from a world like
this ;

Forgive the wish that would have kept
thee here,

And stay'd thy progress to the seats of
bliss !

No more confined to grov'ling scenes of
night,

No more a tenant pent in mortal clay,
Now should we rather hail thy glorious
flight,

And trace thy journey to the realms of
day !”

Crossing the eastern end of Brading Downs, and a pretty winding stream which traverses a good part of the island, and after turning several mills falls into *Brading Haven*, we come to the village of **YAVERLAND**, with its quaint manor-house, that was built in the time of Queen Elizabeth. Here, too, there is a curious church, much smaller, and apparently much older, than Brading Church. There is a round-headed Norman-looking arch leading to the chancel, which fortunately has been left almost untouched, though the

hands of modern bricklayers and plasterers are but too discernible in other parts of the church. Some fine elm-trees stand close by. The neat village of Yaverland is situated at the head of the little peninsula which is flanked on one side by the Culver Rocks, and terminates in Bembridge Point, near to which there is another hamlet that commands a fine view of Brading Haven.

From Yaverland or Sandown Fort the tourist may make a pleasant return journey to Newport by passing *Sandham heath*, *Alverstone*, and *Ashey Down*. The view from the summit of the last-named down, where there is a triangular pyramid about twenty feet high, which serves to guide ships sailing into St. Helen's or Spithead, is one of the finest in the island, but does not differ materially from that obtained from Arretton Down, which is a continuation of the same ridge.

The walk from Newport to East Cowes, by the Whippingham road, is a very delightful one, presenting picturesque views of West Cowes, East Cowes Castle, Norris Castle, &c., with their richly-wooded grounds; the scenery near the Medina, which flows on the left parallel to the road, is pleasing and agreeable; and on approaching the coast the tourist has before him fine views of the Solent and the Hampshire coast.

FOURTH EXCURSION.

Another delightful trip, and the last we shall treat of, is to the north-west of

the island, in the direction of Freshwater and the Needles.

At about 4 miles from Newport, taking that road, is the beautiful spot called *Park Cross*, which we have already described in speaking of the country about Carisbrook. Another mile farther on is *Swainston*, a fine country-seat which stands on the spot that was once occupied by an ancient palace of the bishops of Winchester. Hence we proceed to *CALBOURNE*, a small village with another of those curious antiquated little churches which add so much interest to the island, and with a fine mansion and park called *Westover*, on a gentle hill in its neighbourhood. From this point there is a succession of shelving downs, quiet valleys, and scattered woodland, till we reach the river Yar, on the opposite bank of which stands the village of *FRESHWATER*, the birth-place (in the year 1635) of Dr. Robert Hooke, a leading member of the recently-instituted Royal Society, a natural philosopher and machinist of no mean fame, of whom the islanders, who always class him among their worthies, are not a little proud. Hooke, who enjoyed the lucrative post of city-surveyor of London after the Great Fire in 1666, did many wiser and more useful things, but wanting to fly in the air like a bird, he, at an enormous expense of time and labour, invented above thirty machines and methods for flying, and found himself obliged to walk upon the earth after all. "But what of this whimsical niche," says a native historian, "for, not to mention that a grave

and learned bishop was much occupied in the same fancy, these foibles in men of real genius are but like spots in the sun, visible indeed, but not able, on the whole, to obscure its glory."*

The village of Freshwater is not otherwise remarkable; but going from that point the tourist can examine the Yar river, and the singular peninsula which it almost entirely cuts off from the rest of the island. The Needles, at the western extremity of this peninsula, and the stupendous cliffs and rocks of *Alum, Toiland, and Scratchell bays*, are not seen to such advantage as from the sea beneath; but, as at other places where we have approached the coasts in these excursions from the interior, it is interesting to observe the different aspects under which these rocks present themselves when seen from above, and the

seaward views from the summits of the cliffs are in general of great extent and beauty. At *Freshwater-gate* there is an easy descent to the seashore at the back of the island, not far from *Watcombe Bay* and *Compton Chine*. There is also a neat and comfortable inn among a small group of cottages.

A pleasant way of returning to Newport is by *THORLEY*, a village in a wooded vale, with a small church of great antiquity, and no steeple,—*SHALFLEET*, another village, with a Norman church,—and *Purkhurst*, or the *King's Forest*, which we have already described.

The routes we have traced will give a very good notion of this beautiful little island; but from each of them there are many roads and bye-paths branching off, and leading almost invariably to some graceful, quiet, or picturesque nook.

* John Starch, 'View of the Isle of Wight,' &c.

TABLE OF DISTANCES OF TOWNS FROM EACH OTHER IN THE COUNTY OF HANTS.

* * The distances from London are marked on the Map.

Alresford.	
Alton.....	10 Alton.
Andover.....	18 27 Andover.
Basingstoke.....	12 12 18 Basingstoke.
Bishop's Waltham	12 18 24 25 Bishop's Waltham.
Christchurch.....	42 52 41 53 37 Christchurch.
Cowes.....	30 40 38 42 22 39 Cowes.
Fareham.....	20 25 32 33 8 43 17 Fareham.
Fordingbridge ...	32 42 26 40 25 15 27 27 Fordingbridge.
Gosport.....	23 30 37 36 14 49 12 5 32 Gosport.
Havant.....	12 25 27 26 13 51 21 8 35 10 Havant.
Lymington.....	36 46 35 44 26 12 17 30 21 35 38 Lymington.
Odiham.....	17 8 24 8 27 61 51 35 49 38 34 54 Odiham.
Petersfield.....	8 12 26 24 15 48 30 16 39 20 12 40 22 Petersfield.
Portsmouth.....	28 30 41 45 17 46 12 9 34 2 9 27 39 18 Portsmouth.
Ringwood.....	36 46 33 45 29 9 32 32 6 37 40 15 54 44 41 Ringwood.
Romsey.....	18 28 17 29 19 24 20 20 14 25 30 18 35 34 28 18 Romsey.
Southampton	18 29 25 30 10 24 12 12 15 17 20 18 36 24 22 20 7 Southampton.
Stockbridge.....	18 25 7 22 19 34 28 27 24 32 33 28 30 27 34 28 10 16 Stockbridge.
Whitchurch.....	15 17 7 11 23 47 37 31 33 35 36 39 17 23 40 41 23 40 7 Whitchurch.
Winchester.....	7 17 14 18 10 35 24 18 25 23 23 29 24 18 25 28 11 12 9 12 Winchester.

STATIONS on the LONDON and SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY, and FARES by each CLASS of CARRIAGES.

Distance.	STATIONS.	FAST TRAIN.	MIXED TRAIN.		GOODS TRAIN.
		1st Class.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.
Miles.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3	London to Wandsworth .....	...	1 0	0 6	...
6	.... Wimbledon .....	...	1 6	1 0	...
10	.... Kingston .....	...	2 0	1 6	...
13	.... Esher and Hampton Court } .....	...	2 6	1 6	...
15½	.... Walton .....	...	3 0	2 0	...
17½	.... Weybridge .....	...	3 6	2 0	...
25	.... Woking	6 0	5 0	3 6	2 6
31½	.... Farnborough	8 6	7 6	5 0	3 0
38	.... Winchester	10 0	9 0	6 0	3 6
46	.... Basingstoke	12 0	11 0	7 0	4 0
56	.... Andover Road	15 0	13 6	9 0	5 0
64	.... Winchester	17 6	15 6	10 0	6 0
76½	.... Southampton	20 0	18 0	12 0	7 0

* * * By the Fast Trains the Journey from London to Southampton is performed in 3 hours ;
by the Mixed Trains in 3½ hours ; and by the Goods Trains in 6 hours.

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Bere Forest, 27

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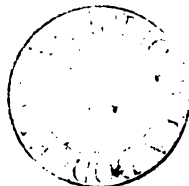
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THE
JOURNEY-BOOK OF ENGLAND.

KENT.



WITH
FIFTY-EIGHT ENGRAVINGS ON WOOD, AND AN ILLUMINATED
MAP OF THE COUNTY.

*Gough Atlas Gen. Top.
80232*

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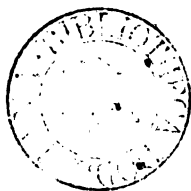
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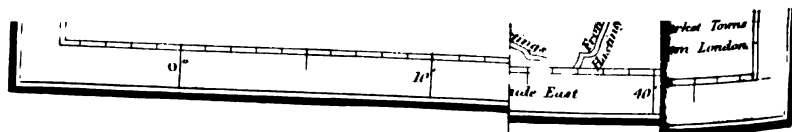
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Sittingbourne	40	18	16	25	34	31	7	31	18	30	10	32	33	11	32	27	Sittingbourne.			
Tenterden	55	12	26	40	44	35	24	27	36	22	19	42	43	23	14	33	29	Tenterden.		
Tunbridge	32	31	41	19	59	56	31	50	26	45	14	57	57	33	41	6	24	23	Tunbridge.	
Tunbridge Wells	36	23	44	25	60	53	27	46	32	40	16	51	52	25	36	11	26	18	6	Tunbridge Wells

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hed February 1. 184.

THE JOURNEY-BOOK OF KENT.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

KENT, a maritime county in the south-eastern corner of England, is bounded on the north by the æstuary of the river Thames, by which it is separated from the counties of Middlesex and Essex; on the east by the German Ocean and by the Straits of Dover; on the south by the county of Sussex, from which it is separated in one part by the river Rother, in another part by the Teyse or Teise, a feeder of the Medway; and in the south-western corner of the county by Kent Water and other branches of the Medway: on the west side the county is bounded by Surrey. A detached portion of the parish of Woolwich in Kent lies on the north side of the Thames.

The form of the county is irregular. Its principal dimensions are as follows: length of the northern boundary, from the neighbourhood of London to

the North Foreland, 64 miles in a straight line; of the southern boundary, from the junction of the three counties, Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, to Denge Ness, or Dungeness, 43 miles; of the eastern boundary, from the North Foreland to Denge Ness, 38 miles; and of the western boundary, from the neighbourhood of London to the junction of the above counties, 24 miles: the length of a diagonal drawn from London to Denge Ness is 59 miles; and of one from the North Foreland to the junction of the above counties, 62 miles. The area is estimated at 1557 square statute miles; the population in 1831 was 479,155, giving 308 inhabitants to a square mile. In size it is the ninth of the English counties; in population the sixth; and in density of population the seventh. Maidstone, the county town, is on the Medway, 31 miles from London in a direct line south-east, or 34½ miles by the road by Eltham, Farningham, and Wrotham.

PHYSICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

COAST LINE.

The northern part of the county, along the æstuary of the Thames, is skirted by a line of marshes extending inland from the Thames a distance varying from a few yards to a mile and a half or two miles. At the junction of the æstuaries of the Thames and the Medway these marshes are very extensive, and occupy a large portion of the tongue of land between these rivers, the extremity of which, being nearly or quite insulated by Yantlet Creek, forms what is termed the Isle of Grain.

Eastward of the Isle of Grain, the Swale, an arm of the æstuary of the Medway, cuts off from the main land the Isle of Sheppey, of which the isles of Elmley and Harty are subordinate portions, nearly severed from the rest by ditches or creeks. The northern side of the Isle of Sheppey is upland; the face towards the Thames is abrupt but not very lofty, the cliffs rising about 90 feet above the river. The southern part of the island is a low flat. The length of the island from east to west is about 10 miles; its greatest breadth from north to south about 5 miles. It probably once extended farther on the north side, but the cliffs have been gradually washed away. Its area is nearly 33 square miles, divided between 7 parishes: it comprehends the ancient but decayed borough of Queenborough,

and the royal dockyard and town of Sheerness, at its north-western point. The population of the island in 1831 was 9934. The surface is laid down for the most part in grass: but the upland part on the northern side produces good corn. The air is loaded with vapours in the low marshy grounds, and the water is brackish; the population is thin, except in and about Sheerness. The Isle of Sheppey constitutes a separate liberty, with the exception of Harty Island (which is in Faversham hundred), and had formerly a 'Court of Hustings' for the trial of all causes or pleadings relating to the island. The marshes terminate east of the Swale, and the coast again rises to some height in clayey cliffs, which, with a slight interruption at Herne Bay, extend to Reculver and the flats which form the western limit of the Isle of Thanet. In the Isle of Thanet, which occupies the north-eastern corner of the county, the cliffs again commence, and continue along the whole line of coast to Pegwell Bay, which is the boundary of the Isle to the south-east. The North Foreland is on the coast of the Isle of Thanet, due east of Margate.

The Isle of Thanet contains about 40 square miles, with a population in 1831 of 26,090, and includes the well-known watering-places, Margate, Ramsgate, and Broadstairs. It is now separated from the mainland only by the narrow channels of the Stour, one

of which runs through the marshes to the æstuary of the Thames at Reculver, and the other enters the German Ocean in Pegwell Bay. The coast from the Isle of Sheppey to the North Foreland is skirted by sands which extend from a quarter of a mile to a mile from high-water mark ; and for some miles farther out by 'the flats,' which, except in Margate Roads, rarely afford, when the tide is out, more than two fathoms water. Margate Roads are sheltered to seaward by Margate Sands, which are dry at low water.

The chalk cliffs of the Isle of Thanet are succeeded by the low coast of Pegwell Bay, which continues to Walmer Castle near Deal. Here the chalk cliffs recommence and continue round the South Foreland (a headland bearing 14 miles nearly due south from the North Foreland) to Sandgate, between Folkestone and Hythe. Between Dover and Folkestone a portion of the chalk cliffs has fallen forward towards the sea, so as to present an under cliff similar to that at the back of the Isle of Wight. From the neighbourhood of Folkestone the coast begins to get lower until it forms the extensive tract of Romney Marsh, the coast line of which extends south-west to Denge Ness, a point 19 miles in a straight line south-west of the South Foreland, and from thence westward 6 or 7 miles to the border of the county of Sussex. Romney Marsh is in one part protected against the sea by an embankment called Dymchurch Wall. There are lighthouses at the

North and South Forelands, and on Denge Ness, and beacons in various other places. Opposite to the coast which extends from the Isle of Thanet to the South Foreland lies the Goodwin Sand, the channel between which and the Kentish coast is the well-known roadstead of the Downs. The popular tradition is that the Goodwin Sand was once an island, forming the estate of Goodwin earl of Kent. This island, which some suppose to have been called Lomea, is said to have been destroyed by the sea, A.D. 1097. Others, with more probability, consider it to have been a shallow previously covered with a depth of water sufficient to admit the passage of vessels over it, but made bare about the above-mentioned period by the accumulation of sand. There has been an impression that the sand was possessed of a peculiarly 'voracious and ingurgitating property ; so that should a ship of the largest size strike on it, in a few days it would be so wholly swallowed up by these quicksands, that no part of it would be left to be seen.' More accurate observers have, however, found that the sand is of the same quality with the sands on the opposite shore. The Goodwin Sand is of irregular form, about 10 or 11 miles long from north to south ; its greatest breadth is three or four. It is divided into two parts by a narrow channel called 'the Swatch,' navigable by small boats.

The Downs, which are about 8 miles in length and 6 in width, are a safe

anchorage, and are the general rendezvous of shipping leaving the Thames for the Channel, or returning homeward. They are sheltered on the west and north-west, and partially on the north sides, by the Kentish coast or by the sands connected with it: on the east side the Goodwin Sand forms a sort of breakwater. To the north of the Downs are 'The Small Downs,' a smaller roadstead immediately contiguous to the Downs properly so called.

SURFACE AND GEOLOGY.

Kent is on the whole a hilly county. The chalk range of the North Downs enters the county on the west side from Surrey, not far from Westerham, and runs to the east-north-east to the valley of the Medway between Maidstone and Rochester. The southern slope of this chalk range is steeper than the northern, and forms a line of hills, from the summit of which there is an extensive prospect. The North Downs are interrupted between the border of the county and the Medway by the valley of the Darent. On the eastern side of the Medway, which completely interrupts the chalk range, the Downs rise again, and run to the east-south-east to the coast near Folkestone, still presenting their steepest slope to the south. This part of the range also is divided into two parts by the valley of the Stour. On the north side the Downs gradually subside towards the æstuary of the Thames. The coast line from Walmer to Folkestone shows a transverse section of this range.

The breadth of the chalk formation, which thus extends through the county from west to east, varies: west of the Stour it is from three miles to six; east of the Stour it occupies the whole extent of the county north of a line drawn from Folkestone to Wye, four miles north-east of Ashford, except where it is interrupted by the marshy valley which surrounds the Isle of Thanet. The height of the chalk hills is considerable. Hollingbourne station, between the valleys of the Medway and the Stour, about six miles from Maidstone, is 616 feet above the level of the sea; Paddlesworth Hill, about three miles north-west of Folkestone, is 642 feet; Folkestone Hill, on the coast near Folkestone, is 575 feet; and Dover Castle Hill is 469 feet. The cliffs near Dover are about 400 feet high. The cliffs of the Isle of Thanet are also of chalk; those about the North Foreland are from 100 to 200 feet high.

The district between the chalk range and the æstuary of the Thames is, for the most part, occupied by the plastic clay which immediately overlies the chalk. The tongue of land between the Medway and the Thames, including the Isle of Grain and the Isle of Sheppey, is formed of the London clay, which overlies the plastic clay. This formation also occupies a considerable district north and north-west of Canterbury, extending to the shore between Whitstable and Reculver, where (as well as in the Isle of Sheppey) it forms cliffs: those between

Whitstable and Reculver are in some places 70 feet high. The London clay also covers a small tract near Pegwell Bay. The hills of Sheppey, which are of London clay, rise to the height of 200 feet. Shooter's Hill, near Woolwich, which is an insulated mass of London clay, is about 446 feet high.

In the valleys of the Darent and its feeder the Cray, the strata above the chalk have been washed away, and the chalk is covered only by the vegetable soil. Another strip of chalk, denuded of the superior strata, runs along the bank of the Thames from the valley of the Darent to below Gravesend.

South of the North Downs the chalk marl and green-sand crop out, and cover a belt of land skirting the chalk throughout the whole extent of the county from west to east. The breadth of this belt varies from two miles to six or seven. Its southern slope, which is the steepest, forms what is designated 'the ragstone range' of hills, the higher points of which are from 600 to 800 feet high, and overlook the valley watered by the Eden, the Medway (from Penshurst, about five miles south-west of Tunbridge, to Yalding, about the same distance south-south-west of Maidstone), and the Beult. The thickness of the chalk marl averages 300 to 400 feet; of that of the green-sand we have no account.

The valley just referred to is occupied by the Weald clay, and forms another belt extending throughout the county from the border of Surrey to

the edge of Romney Marsh, having an average breadth of five miles. The thickness of this formation may be estimated at about 300 feet.

The remaining portion of the county, which forms a narrow belt or strip of land along the Sussex border, is occupied by the iron-sand, which forms the nucleus of the great Weald district of the south-eastern part of England. This formation constitutes a range of hills, amid which the upper waters of the Medway and its tributary the Teyse have their sources, and extends far into Sussex. It rises in some parts of the Weald clay district through the overlying strata of that formation.

The county thus appears, when viewed with reference to its geology, to consist of five parallel belts, extending nearly in the direction of its length, and occupied by different formations, which succeed each other in regular order from north to south:—1, The London and plastic clays; 2, the chalk; 3, the chalk marl and green-sand; 4, the Weald clay; 5, the iron-sand. The southern border of the chalk and green-sand formations, and the iron-sand district, form three parallel ranges of hills separated from each other by the Homesdale and Weald clay valleys, the former lying at the foot of the chalk hills, and the latter of the ragstone or green-sand hills.

What is termed the Weald (Saxon *Pealb*, a forest, or perhaps generally, a wild uncultivated tract) was anciently an immense forest, inhabited

only by deer and hogs. It has however been gradually cleared and brought into cultivation. The iron-sand of this district was formerly much in request for the furnace and the forge; and the iron works were numerous and important. But the introduction of coal in the manufacture of iron has caused this branch of industry to be transferred to other parts of the island where fuel is more abundant. Beds of limestone occur in the greensand formation, and are quarried near Maidstone for common purposes of building, for road-making, and for burning into lime, which is used for stucco, or exported to the West Indies for refining sugar.

DRAINAGE.—RIVERS.

The northern boundary of the county is formed by the Thames, to the basin of which nearly the whole county belongs. This river affords to that side of the county a ready means of communication with the metropolis, and with other parts. The royal dockyards of Deptford and Woolwich are upon it.

The other principal rivers are the Ravensbourne, the Darent, and the Medway, which flow into the estuary of the Thames; and the Stour and the Rother, which flow into the sea.

The Ravensbourne rises on Keston Common, near the border of Surrey, and flows northward past the town of Bromley and the village of Lewisham, and between the towns of Greenwich and Deptford, into the Thames. It

turns several mills, and supplies Greenwich and Deptford with water by means of waterworks. It is navigable for nearly a mile up to Deptford bridge for lighters and other small craft. The whole length of the Ravensbourne is about ten miles.

The Darent rises in Squirries park, near Westerham, just under the North Downs, and close to the border of Surrey. Its course is first east-north-east, parallel to the course of the North Downs, to Riverhead, near Sevenoaks, where it turns north, and passes through a depression in the Downs by Otford, Shoreham, Farningham, and other villages, to the town of Dartford, below which it is called Dartford Creek, and, becoming navigable, flows through the marshes into the Thames. Its whole course is about twenty miles, for three of which it is navigable. Just before joining the Thames it receives the Cray, which rises near Orpington, and has a course of about nine miles. The Cray is said to produce the best trout of any stream in the neighbourhood.

The Medway rises in Sussex, near the northern border, between East Grinstead and Crawley, and flows eastward through that county into Kent, which it enters near Ashurst, about five miles west of Tunbridge Wells. In this upper part of its course the Medway is swelled by many brooks, which drain the higher districts of the Weald of Sussex. At Penshurst, in Kent, the Medway is joined by the Eden, one of its main branches, which rises about Godstone, in Surrey, and receives the

drainage of the valley that separates the green-sand hills from the central iron-sand high lands of the Weald. The Eden is about 16 miles long. The length of the Medway before it receives the Eden may be estimated at 18 miles. From Penshurst, where the navigation of the river commences, it flows east-north-east five miles to Tunbridge, forming in its way two or three islands. From Tunbridge the Medway flows eight miles east by north to Yalding, in the Weald, near which it is joined by the Teyse, or Teise, and the Beult. The Teise rises in the northern part of Sussex, and flows by Lamberhurst and between Horsmonden and Goudhurst into the Medway. Its length is about 17 miles. It sends off an arm which joins the Beult. This river rises in the Weald of Kent, not far from the foot of the iron-sand hills, near Shadoxhurst, four miles south-south-west of Ashford, and flows north-by-west 20 miles to Yalding. The course of the Medway, and of its principal feeder the Beult, to their junction, is in the direction of the valley of the Weald clay, of which they receive the drainage, the Beult of the eastern, and the Medway of the western part. From Yalding the course of the Medway, though very winding, is for the most part northward: it passes through an opening in the green-sand hills, across the prolongation of the valley of Holmsdale, by Maidstone and Aylesford, through a great opening in the North Downs, and by Rochester and Chatham, into the æstuary of the Thames at Sheerness. Its length be-

low Yalding is more than 30 miles, and its total length above 60, for more than 40 of which it is navigable. The tide flows up to Maidstone bridge, just above which it is now stopped by a lock; it previously flowed a mile or two higher up. Ships and large vessels cannot ascend above Rochester bridge. Below Rochester the æstuary gradually expands to a considerable width, and forms an important harbour for the British navy. Numerous arms of the river, or creeks, penetrate the marshes, which spread inland to a considerable extent from the banks of the river. The royal dockyard of Chatham is on the Medway, and that of Sheerness at the junction of the Medway with the Thames. The Medway is plentifully stored with fish: above Maidstone is an abundance of the usual fresh-water fish; and below Rochester are soles, flounders, and other flat fish, and smelts of excellent quality and large size. In the creeks in the lower part of the river are considerable oyster-beds.

The British name of this river is said to have been *Vaga*, but if a judgment may be formed from the name given by Nennius to the town of Maidstone, '*Caer Meguaid*' or '*Caer Megwad*,' the first syllable of the modern name was also part of the British name, and not (as supposed by some) a Saxon addition. The Romanized name of a town mentioned in the Peutinger Table, and by Richard of Cirencester, supposed to be on this river, was *Ad Madum* or *Madia*, which corroborates the

notion that "Mag" or "Mad" formed part of the British name.

The Stour has two main branches, distinguished as the Greater and the Lesser Stour. The Greater Stour is formed by two streams, which flow along the valley between the North Downs and the green-sand hills in opposite directions, one coming from the north-west near Lenham, the other from the south-east, not far from Hythe, on the coast: they unite near Ashford, and, turning to the north-east, pass through a depression in the North Downs, and flow by Wye and Canterbury to the neighbourhood of Sarre, in the Isle of Thanet. Here the Stour parts into two branches, one of which falls into the estuary of the Thames, near Reculver; the other falls into Pegwell Bay, below Sandwich. These two arms cut off Thanet from the rest of the county, and constitute an island.

The Lesser Stour rises near Lyminge, about three miles north of Hythe, and, flowing north by east to Barham, above which it sometimes becomes dry, turns north by west, and, skirting Barham Downs, flows to Bridge near Canterbury. Here it makes another bend, and runs north-east into that arm of the Greater Stour which falls into Pegwell Bay. The two arms of the Stour, which insulate Thanet, were once a channel three or four miles over, which received several streams beside the Greater and Lesser Stour. This channel was called the Wantsume. In Bede's time the breadth was diminished to three furlongs, and was usually passable at two

places only, Sarre and Stonar, near Sandwich, where ferry boats were kept. The channel continued to be navigable for ships of tolerable burden in the reign of King Henry VIII.; but subsequently the waters of the northern branch having been distributed by means of floodgates over the land, this arm from the Stour to Reculver became too small for navigation, and was for a period quite dry in the neighbourhood of Sarre, so that Thanet became a peninsula rather than an island. A cut from the Stour restored the continuity of the water-course, but this north channel has never since been used for navigation. The Greater Stour enters Pegwell Bay after making a great bend, at the elbow of which Sandwich is situated. It is navigable up to Fordwich, near Canterbury. The whole length of the river from Lenham to Pegwell Bay may be estimated at 45 miles. Both the Greater and the Lesser Stour contain excellent trout; salmon trout, generally of about nine pounds weight, are taken in the Greater Stour, and a peculiar species called the Fordwich trout, which are rather larger.

The river Rother rises in Sussex, to which county it more properly belongs. It first touches the border of Kent at the junction of a small stream, which rises near Hawkhurst, and separates the two counties. From this junction the Rother flows by Newenden and Wittersham, below which it quits the border, and re-enters Sussex. Several small streams from the Weald of Kent

flow into it, and the arms of these, with the Rother itself, enclose the river island of Oxney (six miles long from east to west, and three miles broad), the centre of which is occupied by the hills about Wittersham, Stone, and Ebony Chapel, while the rest of the island (of which the greater part is in Kent) forms the continuation of Romney Marsh. The Rother is navigable in all that part which touches this county. This river, which was anciently called the Limene, once entered the sea at New Romney, but in the reign of Edward I., during a great inundation of the sea, it forsook its ancient channel and formed for itself a new one into the sea at Rye.

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES.

This county comprehends that part of England which, from its proximity to the Continent, first obtained distinct historical notice. The name is very ancient, probably of Celtic original: its meaning has been inferred, from a comparison with other names which seem to include the same element (Cant-ire, Cant-abri, Cant-æ), to be 'corner' or 'projection,' a designation suitable enough to the position of this and of the other countries or nations mentioned.

ROMAN PERIOD.

Cæsar mentions the district by its name, which he gives in the Latinized form Cantium; he ascribes to the inhabitants civilization much superior to that of the other islanders. It was the part on which his attack was made in his first invasion, and he did not then

pass beyond its limits; in his second invasion he passed through it to the assault of other tribes; some sharp encounters took place during his march in this county, and in his absence five of the reguli, or petty princes of Cantium, made an unsuccessful attempt to storm the fortified intrenchment which protected his fleet, B.C. 54. In the invasion under Aulus Plautius, A.D. 43, and in the subsequent wars with the Romans, there are no historical incidents the locality of which can be identified with Cantium, except the destruction of London by the insurgents under Boadicea. Ptolemy places *Λονδίον* (Londinium) among the towns of the *Κάντιον* (Cantii, or people of Cantium); a statement which, if accurate, supposes the district to have exceeded the limits of the present county, whether we place the ancient Londinium on the north or south side of the Thames; and which, if we place the original site of London on the north of the river, as it most likely was, supposes that some part of Middlesex must have been included in Cantium.

In the division of the Roman empire which prevailed in its later period Cantium was comprehended in the province of Britannia Prima (one of the four into which the diocese of Britain was divided), except that part of it (if any) which lay north of the Thames, which was in the province of Flavia Cæsariensis. Several important stations were within the limits of the modern county. There were the four harbours of Regulbium (Reculver);

Ritupæ, or Ad Portum Ritupis (Richborough, near Sandwich); Dubræ, or Ad Portum Dubris (Dover); and Lemanæ, or Ad Portum Lemanis (Lympne or Limme, near Hythe). Roads from these places met at Durovernum, or Canterbury; from whence the military way called Watling Street ran in a direct line to Londinium (London), passing by the way through Durolevum (Newington, or more probably Judde Hill near Ospringe); Durobrivæ or Durobrivis (Rochester); and Vagniacæ (Southfleet, near Gravesend). The above places, with the exception of Regulbium, are mentioned in the 'Itinerary of Antoninus,' which also notices Noviomagus (Holwood Hill, near the source of the Ravensbourne), which, though placed in the 'Itinerary' between Vagniacæ and Londinium, was out of the line of Watling Street. Regulbium is mentioned in the 'Notitia Imperii,' and by Richard of Cirencester. Besides these there were other stations, as Madus, mentioned by Richard, and noticed in the Peutinger table or map; and Anderida, a harbour mentioned both in the 'Notitia Imperii' and by Richard, but which is more likely to have been on the coast of Sussex. Besides Watling Street, and Stone Street, which runs from Canterbury to Lympne, there were probably several Roman roads in Kent which have not been distinguished by any particular name.

Of these stations and roads there are many remains. Regulbium, now Reculver, defended the northern entrance

of the channel between Thanet and the rest of the county. The encroachments of the sea have washed away part of the station. The church of Reculver, which forms a well known sea-mark, occupies the centre of it. The enclosure was a square with the angles rounded off. Parts of the walls on the east, south, and west side yet remain: in their general structure they bear a close resemblance to those of Richborough Castle, but are in a much inferior state of preservation. The town is supposed to have been to the north of the station, on a site now undermined and washed away. Many Roman antiquities of various kinds have been discovered here, and imperial coins are still often found after heavy rains. Richborough Castle, near Sandwich, is the Ritupæ or Ad Portum Ritupis of the Romans. The name of this place is variously spelt. It is called Ad Portum Ritupis in Antoninus; *Portuarius* by Ptolemy; Rhutupis by Richard of Cirencester, who terms it a colony; and Ratupis in the Peutinger table. Ritupæ is the presumed nominative of Ritupis, as Dubræ of Dubris, and Lemanæ of Lemanis. Richborough is one of the noblest Roman remains in the island. It was the usual place of communication with the Continent, and guarded one mouth of the channel which then insulated Thanet. A quarter of a mile from the south-west angle of the castle are the remains of a Roman circular amphitheatre of about 70 yards diameter. Coins and other antiquities have been dug up

here. In the circuit of Dover Castle are the ruins of a pharos or watch-tower, an indubitable relic of the Roman Dubræ.

At Lymne, or Lympne, near Hythe, are the remains of the Roman fortress Lemnæ, or Ad Portum Lemanis. This fort, now called Stutfall Castle, had an area of about five acres. Stukeley and Leland have much exaggerated it; the walls are imperfect, and have been overthrown in some places by the subsidence of the soil, which here forms a steep hill or cliff on the edge of Romney Marsh. The river Limene or Rother formerly had its course under this hill and formed the harbour. Richard spells the name of this place Lemanus.

At Durovernum (Canterbury) numerous antiquities have been discovered, and, until towards the end of the last century, three semicircular arches of Roman bricks were standing in different parts. Many Roman bricks have been worked up into the city walls. Richard gives to Durovernum the name Cantiopolis. At Durobrivæ (Rochester) various antiquities have been found, and Roman bricks have been worked up in the ruined walls of the cathedral precinct. The name of this place is said to have been corrupted in the later period of the empire into Roibis (Roibæ), or, in the Peutinger table, Raribis (Raribæ). From Roibis or Roibæ appears to have been formed the Saxon Hrof-Ceastre and the modern Rochester. Bede however derives Hrof-Ceastre from one Hrof, a Saxon chief-

tain. To Durolevum two positions have been assigned: at Newington there are the remains of entrenchments, and an abundance of Roman pottery has been dug up: on Judde Hill in the parish of Ospringe south of the Canterbury road, which agrees better with the distances of the Itinerary, are the remains of a square camp with the corners rounded off. Roman coins and fragments of culinary vessels, intermixed with many parcels of oyster shells, have been found; and in the ruins of Stone Chapel, just on the other side of the road, Roman bricks have been worked up, and in one place a separate piece of a Roman wall has been built in. At Southfleet, the Roman Vagniacæ, a large earthen vessel and a stone tomb containing several funeral antiquities were discovered early in the present century. On Holwood Hill, near Farnborough, on the Hastings road, the ancient Noviomagus, there are the remains of an immense elliptical encampment, in which Roman bricks and tiles have been turned up by the plough, and Roman coins picked up. Noviomagus is said by Richard to have been the metropolis of Bibroci. To the Madus of Richard (perhaps it should be Ad Madum) it is difficult to assign a position which will accord with the distances given by him. The name would lead us to Maidstone, or some post, or ferry, or ford, on the Medway, but the distances as they stand will not admit of this. Some identify the place with Durobrivæ or

Rochester, but the numbers will not agree with this supposition. It may be mentioned here, that the numbers in Richard's Itinerary (Durolevo . . Mado XII. Vagnaca XVIII.), if transposed, would sufficiently well suit the distance of Maidstone from Judde Hill and Southfleet respectively, if we suppose a branch road from the Watling Street at Newington to Maidstone, and another road direct from Maidstone to Watling Street at Southfleet. The remains of an entrenchment at Newenden, the discovery of some Roman coins, and a tradition mentioned by Camden, that a very ancient town and harbour had existed here, have led some to fix on this as the site of Anderida. But the distance from Ad Portum Lemanis in Richard, and the declaration of Gildas, that it was in 'littore oceani ad meridiem,' would lead us to some position on the Sussex coast as the site of that town.

Of the Roman roads, the Watling Street, which nearly coincided with the present road from London to Canterbury, may be traced in several places. Dr. Plot observed traces of it on or near Blackheath. It is still visible on Bexley Heath, and again just beyond Dartford, where the modern road bends to the left towards Gravesend, while the Street pursues a direct course through Southfleet to Rochester. From hence to Canterbury the ancient and modern roads coincide, and the traces of the ancient one appear to have been, except in a few places, obliterated. The branch

of Watling Street which led from Durovernum (Canterbury) to Lemanæ (Lympne), is still conspicuous for some miles. It pursues a straight course between the two places, and is known by the name of Stone Street.

The North Foreland is mentioned by Ptolemy under the name of Κάπνιον or 'Ἀνάκτορος ἄκρον, the promontory Cantium or Acantium. The Medway, the Stour, the small stream which enters the sea at Dover, and the Rother, appear to be mentioned in Richard under the respective names of Madus, Sturius, Dubris, and Lemanus. Thanet appears in the pages of Richard under the name of Thanatos, and the channel which insulates it, under that of Wantsuam. Cauna, which appears in Richard's map, is probably Canvey Island on the Essex shore; but its position more nearly resembles that of Sheppey.

SAXON PERIOD.

In the Saxon invasion Cantium was the scene of many interesting events. The brothers Hengist and Horsa landed in Pegwell Bay, near Ipswich Fleet, now Ebb Fleet, in Thanet, probably about A. D. 446 or 449. Their force consisted of three ships, and perhaps 300 men; and it is uncertain if their arrival was accidental, or whether they premeditated an incursion for the sake of plunder. One of the island princes, Wyrtegeorn or Gwrtheyrn (popularly Vortigern), engaged them to support him against the invasions of the Scots, whom they repelled. The names of Hengist and

Horsa are poetical names (both in the Anglo-Saxon denoting a horse); and their exploits are, if not entirely fabulous, of so doubtful a character as to deserve little credit. Having received a grant of the Isle of Thanet, then insulated by a channel of some width, they received accessions of strength from their countrymen at home, and were soon involved in hostilities with the Britons. Thanet was called by the Britons Ruim or Ruym.

Of the early battles of Hengist and his Jutes with the Britons, the principal were fought in the year 455; the first on the Dereuent (Darent); the second at Epsford or Eglesford (Aylesford) on the Medway, in which battle the British prince Catigern, son of Vortigern, and the Saxon Horsa, fell; and the third at Stonar, near Sandwich. The localities indicate that at the commencement of the struggle the Jutes had advanced some way into the island, and that they were gradually repelled. The ancient chronicles distinctly assign the victory in the second and third engagements to the Britons, who were led by Guortemir, popularly called Vortimer, son of Vortigern: after the battle of Stonar, the Jutes fled to their ships, and did not return to England till after Vortimer's death, two years after. In A.D. 457, Hengist and his son Eric or Æsc, are said to have defeated the Britons with great slaughter at Creccanford (Crayford), the position of which indicates the advance of the Jutes; yet that advance was probably only for plunder, as the next recorded

engagement, eight years after, A.D. 465, was at Wyppedes-flcot in Thanet. In A.D. 473, the Jutes obtained another victory at a place not named. Hengist died some years after (A.D. 488), leaving a reputation out of all proportion to the real extent of his achievements. The ravages of others seem to have been ascribed to him, and his pre-eminence has probably resulted from his priority in point of time rather than from the wider extent or greater destructiveness of his devastations. Even their priority in point of time is questionable; for it has been supposed that during the decline of the Roman power the east coast, or the Saxon shore, had been to a considerable extent colonized by Saxons. Hengist's dominions never extended beyond Kent, and it may be questioned if he ever took the title of king. His son Æsc did; and was honoured as the real founder of the Kentish dynasty of the Æscingas, or sons of the ash-tree. Kent was called by the Saxons Cantwaraland: Durovernum became Cantwarabyrig or Cantwaraburh, whence Canterbury. In a Latin charter of Ethelbert, Kent is Cantia, and Canterbury Dorobernia.

Æsc was succeeded by Ocha or Octa, and Ermeric, whose genealogy and the period of whose reigns are obscure. Kent passed unnoticed in the more exciting events which occurred in other parts. But Oedilberct (Bede) or Aethelbyrht, or in Latin Ethelbertus, popularly Ethelbert, who succeeded Ermeric, was of a more aspiring disposi-

tion than his predecessors. In the year 568, being only 16 years of age, he claimed the supremacy of the Anglo-Saxon princes, and invading the dominion of Ceawlin, king of Wessex, the most powerful of them, was defeated by that prince and his brother Cutha, or Cutholf, at Wibbandune (perhaps Wimbledon in Surrey). In A.D. 589, or thereabout, Ethelbert obtained the supreme power or dignity of Bretwalda, which he retained till his death, A.D. 616. After the conversion of Ethelbert to Christianity, a church was built by Augustin, adjacent to the royal palace, which was the precursor of the present cathedral of Canterbury, which, from the political supremacy of Ethelbert and his earlier conversion, became the ecclesiastical metropolis of England.

Under Eadbald, son and successor of Ethelbert, the crown of Kent lost the supremacy which the talent or power of Ethelbert had acquired. A succession of obscure princes followed: Erconbert, A.D. 640; Ecgbyrht, or Egbert, A.D. 664; Hlothere, or Lothar, A.D. 673,—in the reign of this prince Ethelred, king of Mercia, invaded Kent, put Hlothere to flight, and destroyed Rochester, A.D. 676; Eadric (A.D. 685) had previously reigned for some time in conjunction with Hlothere, with whom he was competitor for the royal power, which he compelled him to divide. In this reign, A.D. 686 and 687, Ceadwalla, king of Wessex, and his brother Mollo, or Wolf, attacked and ravaged Kent with extreme fero-

city. Mollo was surprised by the Kentish men, driven into a hut, and burnt, with 12 followers. Ceadwalla, however, established his supremacy over the kingdom of Kent, and held it till his abdication, A.D. 688. Wihtred and Swaebhard or Waebhard, were kings of Kent about A.D. 690 and 693: the former reigned for more than 30 years. He paid a heavy fine to Ina of Wessex, who had invaded Kent, as an expiation for the death of Mollo. Ethelbert, Eadbald, and Alric, brothers, reigned in conjunction under the supremacy of Mercia, A.D. 725. Alric was the survivor of the three, and in him ended the line of the Æscingas.

In A.D. 752, Kent was subject to Mercia, for Kentish men formed part of the army of Ethelbald, the Mercian king, in his war against Cuthred of Wessex. In the following half century Kent appears to have been in an unsettled state, and was perhaps divided between two or more petty princes: among whom Alchmund, Eadmund, or Eamund, father of Egbert, afterwards king of Wessex, may be numbered. During part, if not the whole of this period, Kent was in subjection to Mercia, having been conquered by Offa, who defeated the Kentish men, A.D. 776, at Otford. About A.D. 796 or 797, Eadbald, or Ethelbert Pren, king of Kent, was attacked by Cenwulf of Mercia; and having been seized by some of his own subjects, 'the Mercwara,' or men of Romney Marsh, was by them cruelly mutilated and delivered up to the Mercians. Cenwulf

bestowed the crown of Kent on his brother Cuthred, as subordinate prince ; but on his death resumed the direct government of it. Other princes subordinate to Mercia were however soon appointed, of whom Baldred was one. Wessex was now establishing its supremacy over the other Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. Egbert, king of the West Saxons, having defeated the Mercians at Ellandun or Wilton, A.D. 823, dispatched a force into Kent under his son Ethelwulf, the Ealdorman or Alderman Wulfheard, and Alstan, bishop of Sherbourn. Baldred fled at their approach : and Kent passed from under the Mercian supremacy to that of the West Saxons, under which it long remained.

From this time Kent, with which Surrey and Sussex, and probably Essex, were incorporated, became a subordinate part of the West Saxon empire. It commonly formed the appanage of the eldest son, or heir apparent, of the king of Wessex, and when the heir succeeded to the paramount sovereignty he usually resigned the Kentish crown to his heir. Thus Ethelwulf, son of Egbert, was, during his father's reign over Wessex, king of Kent ; and when he succeeded to the throne of Wessex, he bestowed Kent successively on his sons Athelstane and Ethelbert ; the latter of whom retained the crown when his brother Ethelbald ruled over Wessex, and, on the death of Ethelbald, united Kent and Wessex under one sceptre. It is to be observed that after the

death of Athelstan, Ethelwulf united for a while the direct administration of the sovereignties of Kent and Mercia in his own person ; and afterwards reigned in Kent in conjunction with Ethelbert, who was subordinate to him. In a grant, Ethelwulf takes the title of '*Rex Occidentalium Saxonum necnon et Cantuariorum.*' During the reign of Ethelwulf in Wessex, and of his sons in Kent, the latter kingdom was repeatedly attacked by the Danes ; Canterbury and Rochester were sacked by them. Athelstan, king of Kent, and the alderman Elchere, or Ealhere, however, defeated the Danes at Sandwich, and took many of their ships. At a subsequent period the Danes landed in the Isle of Thanet, and vanquished the men of Kent and Surrey.

In the warfare of Alfred the Great with Hastings the Northman, Kent was again the scene of conflict. In the year 893 a fleet of 250 vessels arrived on the coast, and the crews having landed in Romney Marsh, and built a fort at Apuldre, now Appledore, on the Rother, marched inland to ravage the country. Hastings himself, with 80 vessels, arrived in the East Swale, landed at Milton, and threw up a strong intrenchment near Sittingbourne. Alfred marched an army into Kent, and encamped between the two divisions of Hastings, which he thus kept in check ; but the Northmen, by a rapid march, passed his army and penetrated into Surrey. Their subsequent hostilities and ravages, though widely spread, do not appear to have touched Kent.

From this time the crown of Kent was never separated from that of Wessex. The 'Juti Cantiani,' Jutes of Kent, are mentioned by an ancient chronicler as subdued by Edward the Elder in the very commencement of his reign: they perhaps at first supported the claim of his cousin and competitor Ethelwold, though in a subsequent part of the struggle they supported Edward. In the next reign, that of Athelstan, Kent possessed its separate legislature, which regulated the terms on which the laws of Wessex should be accepted. Traces of the distinct laws and franchises of Kent continued however till long afterwards.

In the reign of Ethelred (A.D. 980, 991), when the Northmen renewed their ravages, Kent was subjected to their fury, until they were bought off by Ethelred. In A.D. 993 they appeared with a fleet off Sandwich, which they plundered. In the following year they ravaged Kent and other parts until again bought off by the king. In the year 998 they entered the Medway, took Rochester, and plundered the western part of the county. In A.D. 1006 Sandwich was plundered by Sweyn, king of Denmark, who retired on the approach of Ethelred into the Isle of Thanet; and he soon after received a large sum from Ethelred as the price of his retreat. In A.D. 1008 a large Saxon fleet had its rendezvous at Sandwich, but performed nothing; and the next year the Danes landed in the Isle of Thanet, and being joined by their countrymen from other parts, besieged Canterbury, from the

inhabitants of which they extorted a large sum as the price of their retreat. In subsequent years they renewed their ravages in Kent, took Canterbury by treachery, plundered it, and reduced it to ashes. In the short but fierce struggle between Canute and Edmund Ironside, Kent was again the scene of contest. Edmund defeated his rival at Otford, in 1016, and drove him to the Isle of Sheppey.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor Kent was included in the earldom of the famous Godwin, but it does not appear that he took his title from it, but from his more important earldom of Wessex. The earldoms of that day were not mere titles, but conveyed viceregal power over the districts confided to the earl.

NORMAN AND LATER PERIODS.

At the great battle of Hastings the men of Kent formed the vanguard of the Anglo-Saxon army: it was their privilege to occupy that post. A detachment of the Norman force, having landed at Romney just before the battle, were defeated by the townsmen, which led William, when after the battle he marched along the coast, in order to secure the ports which communicated with the Continent, to burn that town and massacre the inhabitants. Having secured Dover Castle after a slight resistance, hung the governor, and burnt the town, he marched toward London by Watling Street; and in his way conciliated the favour, or at least disarmed the resistance, of the men of Kent, by

granting them the continuance of their privileges. An unsuccessful attempt was subsequently made, A.D. 1067, by the Kentishmen, aided by the Earl of Boulogne, to surprise Dover Castle. In the reign of William Rufus, Kent was the scene of civil war: Odo, bishop of Bayeux and earl of Kent, raised the county in favour of Robert duke of Normandy. Rochester town and castle were defended on behalf of Odo, to whom the castle belonged, by Eustace earl of Boulogne, and the besieged did not capitulate till after a siege of many weeks. King John, when threatened with an invasion by Philippe II. Auguste of France, encamped with an army of 60,000 men on Barham Downs; but his courage failed him, and he made his memorable submission and surrender of his crown to Pandulphus, the Pope's Legate, at or near Dover. In the subsequent troubles, A.D. 1215, John collected an army of mercenaries at Dover, and marched inland; but William de Albini bravely defended Rochester Castle for three months against him, at which he was so enraged that, on the surrender of the castle, he ordered all the common soldiers, except the cross-bowmen, to be hung. In A.D. 1216, Louis, dauphin of France, landed in the Isle of Thanet, near Sandwich, in order to assist the barons, and took the castle of Rochester, after a short siege; but after his retreat and the death of John, it again submitted to the crown. The rest of Kent submitted for a time to Louis, except Dover Castle, which was all along defended for the king, against the Dauphin and

the barons, by Hubert de Burgh. In the troubles of the succeeding reign Rochester Castle was defended for the king, against Simon de Montfort, who besieged it in vain.

It was in Kent that the rebellion of Wat Tyler broke out. The commons, in this county and in Essex, rose in a body, A.D. 1381. They attacked the archbishop of Canterbury's house at Maidstone, and released John Balle, a priest, who had been imprisoned for teaching doctrines like those of Wickliffe. The issue of the rebellion is well known. Wat Tyler was slain at Smithfield by sir William Walworth.

In the reign of Henry VI. the insurrection of Jack Cade broke out in Kent, A.D. 1450. Cade was an Irishman, who pretended, and was believed by some, to be a bastard relation of the duke of York, and hence assumed the name of Mortimer. Shakspeare has made him familiarly known to us as 'Jack Cade.' The insurrection which he headed broke out in Kent in the beginning of June, during Whitsuntide week, in the year 1450, and had its origin in the wide-spread dissatisfaction occasioned by the conduct of the duke of Suffolk, the favourite and chief minister of the king. A list of their grievances was published by the insurgents, entitled, 'The Complaint of the Commons of Kent.' Among other complaints alleged by the insurgents were the following:—'That the people paid not for stuff and purveyance taken for the king's use; that the king's lands in France are aliened and put away for the crown; that the people of Kent are

not suffered to have free elections of knights of the shire.' In addition, Cade sent a memorial to the king, expressive of great loyalty, entitled 'The Requests by the Captain of the great Assembly in Kent,' praying him 'to take about his person his true lords, and to avoid all the false progeny and affinity of Suffolk,' and affirming that 'the realm of France, the duchies of Normandy, Gascony, Guienne, Anjou, and Maine were delivered and lost by means of the said traitors.' This last circumstance especially irritated the nation; and to these causes of discontent were added the hardships caused by the statute of labourers and extortionate proceedings which vexed and irritated the commonalty. On the 17th of June, Cade and his followers were encamped at Blackheath. The king, who was with the parliament at Leicester, hastily collected his forces at London, and prepared to march upon the rebels. During this interval, Cade sent to the king the memorials which have been mentioned. Cade had been encamped about a week when the king's forces marched to attack him, upon which he hastily retreated to Sevenoaks. The royalists, believing the rebels were in flight, detached a portion of their forces in pursuit; upon which Cade led his followers against this detachment, which was defeated, and Sir Humphrey Stafford and his brother, who commanded it, were amongst the killed. Cade now resumed his encampment at Blackheath. The royalists were distrustful of their followers, and, as a popular concession, the

king's council committed to the Tower Lord Say and some others, who were disliked by the people on account of their connexion with the obnoxious ministry. The king's army then returned to London, and dispersed. The archbishop of Canterbury and the duke of Buckingham were sent to negotiate with Cade, but he refused to lay down his arms until his demands were acceded to. On the 1st of July he marched from Blackheath for London. Some of the common council advised the admission of the rebels; and an alderman who opposed it was taken into custody. It was resolved that a neutral part should be taken, and the gates were opened to the insurgents. Cade rode through the streets, and struck the old London Stone with his sword, exclaiming, 'Now is Mortymer lord of this city.' He issued proclamations forbidding plunder, and each day withdrew his followers into the Borough to prevent disorder. On the 3rd of July, Cade sent for Lord Say, and had him arraigned at Guildhall. This nobleman claimed to be judged by his peers, on which he was taken by force to the Standard in Cheapside, and there beheaded. The sheriff of Kent, Lord Say's son-in-law, was also beheaded, on account of his alleged extortions. The mob soon began to exhibit the usual characteristics of an undisciplined multitude. On the third day of their being in possession of the city some houses were plundered: Cade himself plundered the house where he had dined. This conduct decided the citizens, who concerted measures with

lord Scales, the governor of the Tower, and it was determined to defend the bridge and prevent the entry of the rebels. The struggle lasted during the night, but the bridge was eventually taken by the royalists, and a short truce was agreed upon. In this interval the bishop of Winchester was sent by the archbishops of Canterbury and York, who were in the Tower, with a pardon under the great seal to all the rebels who were disposed to return to their homes. The offer was accepted by the mass of them, including Cade. Two days afterwards he again invited his followers to his standard, but they flocked around it in diminished numbers, and to attack the city was now hopeless. He therefore retired from Southwark to Rochester, where tumults and quarrels arose among the insurgents respecting the division of booty. On this Cade left them, and fled on horseback to Lewes, in Sussex. A reward of 1000 marks being set upon his head, he was taken by an esquire named Alexander Iden, and killed, after a desperate resistance, July 11. His head was placed on London bridge. The remainder of the rebels returned to their homes as quietly as possible. Some were taken and executed.

At the outbreak of the war of the Roses, A.D. 1451, Richard duke of York encamped near Dartford, where he fortified himself. The king, Henry VI., encamped on Blackheath. Some years afterwards, A.D. 1460, the navy which the duke of Somerset had collected at Sandwich was surprised and captured

by an expedition from Calais, then in the power of the Yorkists. The earl of Warwick soon after landed at Sandwich, and marched to London, being joined on his way by nearly 40,000 men. The bastard of Falconbridge, a Lancastrian, after his unsuccessful attempt on London, A.D. 1471, encamped on Blackheath, whence he slowly retreated through Kent to Sandwich, where he had a fleet: he submitted however to Edward IV., and surrendered his fleet and the town.

In 1533-4 the prophecies of Elizabeth Barton, 'the Holy Maid of Kent,' excited great interest in the kingdom. She was a young woman of Aldington in Kent, subject to fits and a kind of epileptic disease. A number of persons conceived the notion of turning her to some political account, and of increasing the public ferment on the questions of the divorce of Henry VIII. with Queen Catherine and the suppression of the monasteries which had just commenced. The incoherent sentences uttered by the 'Holy Maid,' during the paroxysms of her disorder, in reference to these subjects, were caught up as prophecies, and her prompters not only took down her revelations in writing, but caused them to be printed and circulated. Towards the close of 1533 she and several of her accomplices were arrested and sentenced by the Star Chamber to confess their imposture at Paul's Cross. After this had been done, they were conveyed back to prison, and in April 1534 were attainted of treason. Besides the 'Maid,' were, Bocking, a

monk of Canterbury, her confessor; Maister, the rector of Aldington, and four others, including a monk, a friar, a bachelor of divinity, and a private gentleman. They were executed in April at Tyburn, where the poor prophetess showed pretty clearly by her confession that she had been but an instrument in the hands of others. Amongst the persons accused of holding correspondence with Elizabeth Barton were Fisher, bishop of Rochester, and Sir Thomas More, the late lord chancellor, and they were found guilty by the lords of misprision or concealment of treason. This was the commencement only of those proceedings which finally dragged them to the scaffold.

In the reign of Queen Mary, Kent was the scene of rebellion under Sir Thomas Wyatt, A.D. 1554. In the civil war of Charles I. and the Parliament, a severe battle was fought at Maidstone, A.D. 1648, in which the Parliamentarians, under Fairfax, obtained a complete victory.

In 1830, Kent, with many other of the agricultural counties in the south of England, was disturbed by bands of labourers demanding higher wages. They destroyed threshing-machines and other implements for the abridgment of human labour, and corn-ricks and farm-buildings were set on fire by midnight incendiaries under the order of an assumed leader named 'Swing,' the prototype of 'Captain Rock' in Ireland.

On the 31st of July, 1838, a display of ignorant enthusiasm took place at

the village of Boughton, near Canterbury, which can only be compared to the ebullitions of superstition and fanaticism in the darkest ages. A lunatic named Thom, but who assumed the name of Sir W. Courtenay, Knight of Malta and King of Jerusalem, had inspired a number of people with the belief that he was the Messiah, and they had joined him in the expectation that his advent was the forerunner of a new state of society, in which there would be a re-distribution of property. On the above day, a farmer, whose servant had joined Thom, sent a constable to fetch him back, when Thom shot the constable. The military were now called out, and, on proceeding to a wood where the party were assembled, Thom fired a pistol, and killed their commanding officer, Lieutenant Bennett. His death was avenged by one of the soldiers, who fired at Thom and laid him dead on the spot. The people then attacked the military, who were compelled to fire, and it was not until several were killed that the mob dispersed.

In the reign of Elizabeth the river Medway appears to have formed the only harbour for the royal navy, then in its infancy. The dock at Chatham was built by that queen; and she erected Upnor Castle, on the opposite side of the Medway, to defend the passage of the river. In the reign of Charles II., A.D. 1667, a detachment from the Dutch fleet under De Ruyter sailed up the Medway as far as Upnor Castle.

Of ancient castellated edifices, not already noticed or referred to, the most remarkable are Leeds, Hever, Chelham, Allington, and Westerhanger castles, to which may be added the castellated mansions of Penshurst and Knowle. There are earthworks, or remains of castles, at Cowling, near the mouth of the Thames; at Thurnham, on the brow of the chalk hills near Maidstone, and one or two other places. Sandown, Sandgate, and Walmer Castles, all on the coast, hold a middle place between ancient and modern fortifications. They are coeval with Deal Castle, and are of the time of Henry VIII.

Of monastic remains the principal are St. Augustine's Abbey, Aylesford Priory, and St. Radigund's Abbey near Dover, which was founded about A.D. 1191, for Premonstratensian canons: its yearly revenue at the dissolution was 142*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* gross, or 98*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* clear. The walls of the outbuildings, gardens, &c., cover a considerable extent of ground, and the whole appears to have been surrounded by a semicircular rampart and ditch. The walls of the entrance gateway are nearly entire; the north and west sides of the chapel, and part of the dwelling, now patched up as a farm-house, are also standing. The walls are generally covered with

ivy. There are considerable remains of the Benedictine priory at Dover, including the gateway and refectory, both nearly entire. There were abbeys at Faversham and Malling, and priories at Tunbridge and Folkestone. Of Boxley Abbey, near Maidstone, there are few remains; and the abbey buildings at West Langdon, not far from Dover, have been new fronted with brick and much altered. There are some remains of the priories of Bilsington, on the edge of Romney Marsh, and of Monks Horton, near Stone Street causeway, of which last the western entrance to the church is a small but beautiful ruin of late Norman architecture, with insertions of windows and doors of perpendicular character. The chapel of St. Nicholas's Hospital at Harbledown, near Canterbury, is partly of Norman and partly of later architecture.

Of the churches of the county the most worthy of note are its two cathedrals. For antiquity Barfreston, or Barston Church, between Canterbury and Dover, but not on the high road, is most deserving of notice. Several other churches, including St. Mary's at Dover, are chiefly valuable for their Norman features; but the predominant character in the churches of the county is the early English.

POLITICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

POPULATION AND OCCUPATIONS

The inhabitants of Kent are principally engaged in agricultural pursuits. The government establishments at Chatham, Deptford, and Woolwich give employment to numerous artisans and labourers; but out of 155,655 males, twenty years of age and upwards, living at the enumeration of 1831, only 476 were returned as employed in manufactures or in making manufacturing machinery. Of these 164 were employed in calico-printing at Crayford and Bexley, 88 in weaving bagging for hop sacks, &c. at Maidstone, and the remaining 224 were employed as millwrights and in chemical works at Deptford and Greenwich, in the gunpowder-mills at Dartford, and in the making of Tunbridge-ware. There were 1654 ship and boat-builders in the county, and 531 paper-makers. Textile manufactures were established in Kent at a very early period, but in 1831 there were only 72 weavers in the county. Compared with the other counties of England, the proportion of persons engaged in agriculture in Kent has been increasing. Under this aspect it stood thirty-third on the list in 1811, it was the twenty-eighth in 1821, and in 1831 it ranked the twenty-fifth. The population of Kent at each of the four enumerations made during the present century was—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Inc. per ct.
In 1801	151,374	156,250	307,624	..
1811	183,500	189,595	373,095	21.28
1821	209,833	216,183	426,016	14.18
1831	234,572	244,583	479,155	12.47

showing an increase between the first and last periods of 171,531, or 55½ per cent., which is very nearly equal to the whole rate of increase in England and Wales during that interval.

The following summary of the population taken at the enumeration of 1831, exhibits the number of houses, families, and inhabitants in the county.

Houses.

Inhabited	. . . . .	82,144
Families	. . . . .	97,142
Building	. . . . .	842
Uninhabited	. . . . .	3818

Occupations.

Families chiefly employed in agriculture	. . . . .	31,667
trade,		
manufactures, and handicraft	. . . . .	29,419
All other families not comprised in the two preceding classes	. . . . .	36,056

Persons.

Males	. . . . .	234,572
Females	. . . . .	244,583
Total of persons	. . . . .	479,155
Males 20 years of age	. . . . .	155,655

Agriculture.

Occupiers employing labourers	. . . . .	4,361
„ not employing labourers	. . . . .	2,152
Labourers employed in agriculture	. . . . .	36,113

<i>Other Occupations.</i>			
Employed in manufacture, or in making manufacturing machinery	476	Labourers employed in labour not agricultural	15,245
Employed in retail trade, or in handicraft as masters or workmen	34,257	Other males 20 years of age (except servants)	14,570
Capitalists, bankers, professional and other educated men	5,503	Male servants, 20 years of age . .	2,978
		„ under 20 years of age	1,574
		Female servants	19,250

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY.

CLIMATE AND SOILS.

The climate of Kent is in general mild and genial. The proximity to the continent of Europe exposes it to occasional north-east winds, which chill the air, but they carry off the superfluous moisture of the soil; and some of the most fertile spots are in the Isle of Thanet, which lies at its north-eastern extremity, and in the adjacent parts. The soil of this county may be divided into the gravel, chalk, and clay, which produce, where they mix in due proportions, an extremely fertile loam. The alluvial soils along the Thames and Medway, and in Romney Marsh, produce some of the richest marsh pastures in the kingdom.

A ridge of hills composed of ragstone traverses the county from west to east, along which there are some very fertile clays, which, with moderate attention to the cultivation, are highly productive. The chalk, which lies chiefly to the north of these, rises into hills between Canterbury and Dover, where there are some extensive sheep-downs; but from Canterbury towards London it is

mostly covered by a stiff clay, and only breaks out here and there on the banks of the Thames. To the south of the ragstone hills are the Wealds, which contain some very fertile clays and woods, in which oaks grow to a great size. The soil in the Isle of Thanet is not naturally so fertile as the appearance of the crops might lead one to suppose. It consists mostly of a thin light soil; but it has been so long improved by careful cultivation and abundant manuring, chiefly with seaweed, that it may now be considered one of the most fertile spots in Great Britain. The subsoil is everywhere a hard chalk, over which there is in some places a thin layer of earth mixed with flinty pebbles, not exceeding six or eight inches in depth: in some of the hollows the soil is deeper and more loamy, and so dry as to allow of its being ploughed quite flat without any ridges or water-furrows. There is not an acre of waste land in all the Isle of Thanet.

Throughout the whole county the clay may be said to predominate, and the mode of cultivation generally

adopted is that which suits the strongest soils. The Kentish farmers and yeomen, though generally rich and independent, are not very ready to introduce improvements in the system by which their forefathers were enriched; and although a great quantity of corn is annually raised in the county, and contributes a great portion of the supply of the London market, it cannot be denied that this produce might be greatly increased, and raised at a less expense than it is now, by adopting improvements in the tillage of the land and the implements in use. An old Kentish farmer may perhaps smile at this assertion, and, looking at his fine fields of wheat and beans, defy any one to cultivate the land better. This is the very reason why improvements which have been introduced in less productive districts have made little or no progress in this county. In the year 1793, Mr. John Boys, who drew up the general view of the county of Kent, being himself a Kentish farmer, mentioned the heavy turn-wrist plough, used almost universally throughout Kent, as 'drawn by four horses on the lightest soils, and with six on all the stiffest;' and at this day, nearly half a century later, the old heavy turn-wrist plough is still used with four horses in soils where a good plough of an improved form would readily do the same work with two.

The Kentish turn-wrist plough consists of a beam ten feet long, five inches deep, and four broad, behind which is a foot five inches by three and a half,

and three and a half feet long, on the top of which the handles are fixed. Through the beam, at two feet five inches from the foot, is a sheath of oak seven inches wide and one and a-half thick, which is morticed into the chep in an oblique direction, so that the point of the share is twenty-two inches distant from the beam. The chep, to which the share is fixed, is five feet long, four inches wide, and five inches deep. The share is of hammered iron, weighs about 32lb., is twenty inches long, and from four and a half to seven inches wide at the point. The upper end of the beam rests on a carriage with two wheels three feet two inches high: on the axle-tree is a gallows, on



[Turn wrist Plough.]



[Share of the turn-wrist Plough. The point is flat, like a chisel, for stiff clays, and with a blunt point for stony soils.]

which is a sliding bolster to let it up and down. Through the centre of the axle is a clasp-iron, to which is fixed a strong chain called a tow. This comes over the beam, and, by lengthening it, the beam is let out a greater length from the axle, and thus the plough goes to a greater depth in the ground; by shortening it the reverse takes place.

We do not mean to disparage this plough for heavy soils, nor doubt the necessity of its being drawn by four horses in some very stiff clays; but it might be greatly improved, and the draught diminished, so as to save at least one horse in four. In clay soils, which are retentive of water, it is always advantageous to lay the land in stitches with deep water-furrows between them; and for this purpose the Suffolk or the Scotch ploughs with a fixed turn-furrow are much better adapted than the turn-wrist.

On the soils in the Isle of Thanet, where wheat and beans are raised alternately without fallow or intermission, the practice is good, and, if effected at a moderate expense, is not to be found fault with. The ground is well stirred and amply manured for the beans, which are drilled in rows with wide intervals, and repeatedly horse-hoed till the crop is too far advanced to admit of it. The returns cannot fail to be good. The bean stubble is cleared of the stems and roots of the beans by a plough with a very broad share, which effects a perfect hoeing and leaves the surface quite clean. A deep ploughing

is then given for the wheat. We cannot suggest any improvement in this practice, unless it be in the economy of the labour. But such soils are very scarce, and much of the Kentish clays and loams must be cultivated with a greater variety of crops. There is room here for improvement, both in the rotations and in the manner in which each crop is raised; and the Kentish farmer might find it profitable to adopt some of the methods which experience has fully proved to be advantageous in soils and situations not so well adapted to them as many parts of Kent are. A journey through the northern counties of England and the south of Scotland would give the young Kentish farmer some useful hints, and would remove some prejudices which impede his progress in agriculture.

Besides the usual crops which are raised on good clays, Kent produces several which are peculiar to it, such as canary and radish seed, which grow chiefly in the Isle of Thanet, where there are few hedge-rows to harbour birds, which are very destructive to these crops. The canary-seed is cut in September, and is left for some time in the field until it is fit to be thrashed; for the seed adheres so strongly to the husk that it requires the influence of rain and exposure to the weather for some time to destroy the texture of the envelopement before it can be separated; and it suffers very little from this exposure. The produce is from three to five quarters per acre, and is chiefly used to feed birds kept in cages, and for this purpose is

largely exported. The offal is very good food for horses. Radish seed is also cultivated in the richer soils for the London seedsmen. It is sown in drills and carefully hoed, so as to leave the plants eighteen inches asunder. The pods, when ripe, require to be left long in the field before the seed can be thrashed out. The produce is from eight to twenty-four bushels per acre. The demand for this seed is very great; every garden, however small, has a bed of radishes, and few gardeners think it worth while to save the seed.

Other seeds are likewise raised for the London seedsmen, such as spinach, cresses, and white mustard. Kidney beans are cultivated to a considerable amount in the neighbourhood of Sandwich, and produce from ten to twenty bushels per acre.

Woad and madder were formerly more commonly cultivated in Kent than they are now; the foreign, being raised at a less expense, have driven the Kentish out of the market. With a greater attention to the management of these valuable crops, they might probably still be raised advantageously; but everything which is done in Kent is done in a more expensive manner than in many other counties; a great proof of the easy circumstances of the Kentish farmers and landowners.

There is comparatively a very small proportion of grass land in Kent, if we except the sheep downs on the chalk hills and the marshes. The marshes produce most of the hay consumed in winter. Romney Marsh, which is

well known for the richness of its grass, contains about 44,000 acres; on the borders of the Stour are 27,000; and along the Medway, Thames, and Swale, about 11,500 more. A great many sheep are reared and fattened in these marshes. The cattle fed there are only a secondary consideration, sheep being found more profitable. The quantity of sheep which the land will keep varies from two to five per acre: sometimes the grass grows faster than the flock can consume, and becomes too rank, a circumstance which is owing to want of attention in stocking, and is detrimental. Lean cattle are then taken in to eat it close: but a careful farmer never allows his marshes to be either over or under stocked, and keeps the grass close fed and yet abundant. The hay made in the marshes is often stacked in the marsh itself, near some shed, where the stock may be supplied in winter.

There are very few dairies of any consequence in Kent, nor is any cheese made except for domestic consumption.

HOPS.

Hops are grown to a very great extent in this county; and, with the exception of those which are raised at Farnham in Surrey, are the most esteemed of any in England. Nearly one-half the hops in England are grown in Kent, and about 27,000 acres are under cultivation in the county.

The time of hop-gathering is a season of great animation and interest.

and the motley groups that assemble to this labour are most amusing. The proper time for gathering the hops is indicated by their giving a strong scent, and the seeds becoming firm and of a brown colour. This usually happens early in September. As many hands are then procured as can be set a-picking; great numbers of men and women go out of the towns in the hopping season, and earn good wages in the hop plantations. During the picking they sleep in barns and outhouses. We give the following account of the process in the words of Mr. Loudon, (*Encyclopædia of Agriculture*): 'As a preparation for pulling the hops, frames of wood, in number proportioned to the size of the ground and the pickers to be employed, are placed in that part of the field which, by having been most exposed to the influence of the sun, is the soonest ready. These frames, which are called bins or cribs, are very simple in their construction, being only four pieces of board nailed to four posts or legs, and when finished are about seven or eight feet long, three broad, and about the same height. A man always attends the pickers, whose business it is to cut over the vines near the ground, and to lay the poles on the frames to be picked. Commonly two, but seldom more than three, poles are laid on at a time. Six, seven, or eight pickers, women, boys, and girls, are employed at the same time, three or four being ranged on each side. These, with the man who sorts the poles, are called a set. The hops, after being

carefully separated from the leaves and branches, or stalks, are dropped by the pickers into a large cloth, hung all round withinside the frame on tenter-hooks. When the cloth is full, the hops are emptied into a large sack, which is carried home, and the hops laid in a kiln to be dried. This is always done as soon as possible after they are picked, as they are apt to sustain considerable damage both in colour and flavour, if allowed to remain long in sacks in the green state in which they are pulled. In very warm weather, and when they are pulled in a moist state, they will often heat in five or six hours; for this reason the kilns are kept constantly at work both night and day, from the commencement to the conclusion of the hop-picking season.'

When the crops are tolerably full, a good picker will separate from eight to ten bushels of hops from the binds in the course of a day; which, after being stoved or dried, generally weigh about a hundred weight. The work is sometimes done by the bushel. The price paid is exceedingly variable, depending less, however, on the goodness of the crops, than the abundance or scarcity of labourers.

The process of drying hops is not materially different from that of drying malt, and the kilns are of the same construction. After the drying is completed, the hops are taken away from the kiln by a shovel and put into an adjoining apartment for the purpose, and called the stowage-room. Here

they are kept five, six, or more days, as there may be occasion, before they are in a state proper to be put into the pockets or bags, as when they are bagged too soon they are brittle, and neither draw so good a sample nor weigh so heavy as otherwise.

Bagging the hops is the last operation the cultivator has to perform before sending them to market. In the floor of the stowage-room there is a trap-door, or round hole, equal in dimensions to the mouth of a hop-bag. The bag to be filled is let down this hole, and a man gets into it whose business it is properly to distribute and trample down the hops which another man, who is on the floor, throws down, in small quantities at a time. The hops are thus packed very closely in the bags. The brightest and finest coloured hops are put into 'pockets,' or fine bagging, and the brown into coarse or heavy bagging. The former is chiefly used in brewing fine ales, and the latter by the porter-brewers.

The expense of forming a new hop-plantation is exceedingly heavy, being estimated in many districts at from 70*l.* to 100*l.* per acre. The duration of a hop plantation on a good soil varies from fifteen to thirty years; but in general they begin to decline after the tenth year. The plant is subject to so many diseases, and is liable to suffer from so many casualties, or from seemingly slight inadvertencies in the management, that the produce is subject to very great fluctuation. In some seasons the produce of an acre amounts to

twenty hundredweight, while in others it does not exceed two or three hundredweight. In middling soils from nine to ten hundredweight are considered as fair average crops, and from twelve to fourteen as good ones.

In that part of Kent which is nearest to London there are many extensive gardens; and about Deptford hundreds of acres are laid out in asparagus-beds. Great quantities of peas are also raised for the London market on the line of road from London to Rochester. Apples, pears, plums, and cherries are raised in orchards, and the produce sent to the London market. Cider is also made in considerable quantities. In some places hops, apples, cherries, and filberts may be seen growing together in the same grounds; the proportion is 800 hop-hills, 200 filberts, and 40 apple or pear trees per acre. The hops last twelve years, the filberts thirty; after which the apples and pears require the whole ground. This is a very good arrangement, by which the land is constantly producing.

The cultivation of filberts is peculiar to Kent, and very well managed there, especially in the neighbourhood of Maidstone. They do not require a very rich soil, but grow well in that which is rocky and gravelly. The ground is kept clean around the trees, which stand about 12 feet apart. They are very carefully pruned, and one stem only is left to branch out a few inches above the ground; the branches are trained and pruned in the shape of a punch-bowl, and are not allowed to

run above 4 or 5 feet high: thus they will bear abundantly, and be very profitable. When the filberts are gathered, they are laid to dry in the sun or under a shed exposed to the air. If they are well dried, they will keep good for several years.

There are still some extensive woods in Kent, but they are diminishing every year; and the produce of bark and timber is much reduced from what it formerly was. The demand for hop-poles has caused more attention to be paid to underwood; and some of the coppices, which are well managed, give a sufficient return to prevent their

being grubbed up and converted into arable land.

On a general review of the agriculture of this county, it may be observed that, notwithstanding its present productive state, and the natural fertility of many parts, it is capable of very great improvement, and that by a little attention and a judicious outlay of capital in draining and liming where it is required, and especially by a more economical application of agricultural labour, both in men and horses, its produce might be greatly increased, and raised at much smaller expense than it is at present.

CIVIC ECONOMY.

DIVISIONS, TOWNS, &c.

Kent has been long divided into five lathes. These divisions, in the opinion of some writers, take their name from the Saxon *ge-laðian*, to assemble; they had formerly distinct courts superior to the hundred courts; each of them comprehends several hundreds, and other smaller divisions. The lathes are as follows:

I. *Sutton-at-Hone Lathe* occupies the western extremity of the county. It is bounded on the north by the Thames, on the west by Surrey, on the south by Sussex, and on the east by an irregular line drawn from the Thames just above Northfleet to the border of the county near Penshurst. It com-

prehends an area of 173,440 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 135,951. It includes the following hundreds:—

1. Axton (or Axtane, or Clackstone), Dartford, and Wilmington; 2. Blackheath; 3. Bromley and Beckenham; 4. Codsheath; 5. Little and Lesnes or Lessness; 6. Ruxley; 7. Somerden; 8. Westerham and Eaton-bridge.

II. *Aylesford Lathe* is on the western side, conterminous with Sutton-at-Hone Lathe; on the north it is bounded by the Thames, on the south by Sussex, and on the east by a line drawn from the Medway at Rainham below Chat-ham, south-east to Otterden near Charing, from thence south-west to the neighbourhood of Headcorn, in the Weald, from thence north-west along

the Beult to the junction of a stream flowing from the Teise, and from thence south along that stream and along the Teise to the Sussex border at Lamberhurst. It comprehends an area of 244,150 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 134,176. It is subdivided into the following hundreds:—

9. Branchley and Horsmonden; 10. Chatham and Gillingham; 11. Eythorne, or Eythorne; 12. Hoo; 13. Larkfield or Lavercefield; 14. Littlefield; 15. Maidstone; 16. Shamwell, or Shamel; 17. Toltingtrough or Toltingtrow; 18. Twyford; 19. Washlingstone, or Watchlingstone; 20. Wrotham; beside the liberty of the city of Rochester, and the liberty of the Lowy of Tunbridge.

Hasted adds to the above West or Little Barnefield hundred, containing part of the parish of Goudhurst, but not the church.

III. *Scray Lathe* is on the western side conterminous with Aylesford Lathe. On the north it is bounded by the Thames, on the south by Sussex, and on the east by a tolerably regular line drawn from the Sea Salter near Whitstable to Aldington Corner, six miles west of Hythe; and from thence by Orlestone and Appledore to the eastern end of Oxney Isle. It comprehends an area of 260,510 acres, and ad in 1831 a population of 78,973. It includes the following hundreds:—

21. Barnfield (East); 22. Barclay or Barkley; 23. Blackbourne or Blacetune; 24. Boughton-under-Blean, or Bocton; 25. Calehill; 26. Chart and Longbridge; 27. Cranbrook; 28. Faversham; 29. Felborough, or Feleborg; 30. Marden; 31.

Milton, or Middleton; 32. Rolvenden; 33. Selbrittenenden; 34. Tenterden; 35. Teynham; 36. Wye.

The liberty of the Isle of Sheppey is a part of Milton hundred, but has a constable of its own. According to Hasted, Chart and Longbridge, Calehill, Felborough, and Wye hundreds have long been detached from the Lathe of Scray, and annexed to that of Shipway or Shepway; but all our other authorities give them as being still included in Scray.

IV. *St. Augustine Lathe* (formerly called also *Hedelinth Lathe*) is conterminous on the west with Scray Lathe. On the north and east it is bounded by the sea; on the south it is conterminous with Shepway Lathe; the boundary line being drawn from the border of Scray Lathe, near the town of Wye, to Ewell, near Dover, and from thence south to the sea at Hougham, between Dover and Folkestone. Its area is 166,760 acres, and it had in 1831 a population of 103,621. It comprehends the following hundreds:

37. Bewsborough; 38. Bleangate or Bleagate; 39. Bridge and Petham; 40. Cornile; 41. Downhamford; 42. Eastry or Estreg; 43. Kinghamford; 44. Preston; 45. Ringslow or Tenet, comprehending the Isle of Thanet; 46. Westgate; 47. Whitstable; 48. Wingham.

V. *Shepway* or *Shipway Lathe*, is conterminous on the north with St. Augustine Lathe, and on the west with Scray Lathe and the county of Sussex, and is bounded on the other sides by the sea. Its area is 127,360 acres; its

population in 1831 was 25,849. It contains the following hundreds:—

49. Aloesbridge; 50. Folkestone; 51. Ham; 52. Hayne, or Heane; 53. Hythe; 54. Langport; 55. Loningborough; 56. St. Martin Pountney; 57. Newchurch; 58. Oxney; 59. Stouting; 60. Street; 61. Worth; besides the franchise and barony of Bircholt, called a hundred by Hasted.

There are several parts of the county which have their particular 'liberties,' exempt from the jurisdiction of the county magistrates. They are as follows: I. The county of the city of Canterbury, in St. Augustine Lathe. II. The city of Rochester, and—III. The borough of Maidstone, both in Aylesford Lathe. IV. The liberty of Romney Marsh, comprehending the hundreds of Langport, St. Martin Pountney, and Worth, and part of the hundreds of Aloesbridge, Newchurch, and Street, and of the barony of Bircholt, all in Shepway Lathe. The Marsh is under the jurisdiction of its own bailiff and jurats. V. The liberty of the Cinque-Ports, which is partly in this county and partly in Sussex. The part which is in this county comprehends—1. Sandwich, including the borough of Sandwich; the ville of Sarr, in the parish of St. Nicholas, and the ville of Ramsgate, in the parish of St. Lawrence, in the Isle of Thanet; the town and parish of Deal, the parish of Walmer, and part of that of Woodnesborough, near Sandwich; and the parish of Fordwich, near Canterbury, all in St. Augustine Lathe: 2. Dover, including the town of Dover with part of the

neighbouring parishes of Charlton and Hougham, the parish of Ringswould, between Dover and Deal, and the town and parish of St. John, Margate, the parishes of Birchington, St. Peter's, and Wood, or Woodchurch, in Thanet; the town and part of the parish of Folkestone in Shepway Lathe; and the town and part of the parish of Faversham, in Scray Lathe. All these, except Faversham and Folkestone, are in St. Augustine Lathe: 3. Hythe, including the town and parish of Hythe, and part of the parish of West Hythe, in Shepway Lathe: 4. New Romney, including the town and parish of New Romney, part of the parishes of Old Romney, Appledore (in Scray Lathe), Brenzet, Ivechurch, or Ivychurch, Snargate, and part of Bromhill, all near Romney, and, except Appledore, in Shepway Lathe: 5. Rye, the liberty of which includes in this county the town of Tenterden, in the Lathe of Scray.

The liberty of Hastings formerly included in this county the parish of Beaksbourn near Canterbury (St. Augustine Lathe), and the hamlet or ville of Grange, or Grench, in Gillingham parish, near Chatham, in Aylesford Lathe: but these were separated from it by the statute 51 Geo. III. c. 36.

Several other places, though not out of the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, are not under the constables of the hundred, but have constables of their own.

There are in the county two cities, Canterbury and Rochester: the Cinque

Ports of Dover, Hythe, New Romney, and Sandwich; the parliamentary boroughs of Greenwich (including Deptford and Woolwich,) Chatham and Maidstone, and eighteen other market-towns, viz. Ashford, Bromley, Cranbrook, Dartford, Deal, Faversham, Folkestone, Gravesend, Lydd, Margate, Milton, Ramsgate, Sevenoaks, Sheerness, Sittingbourne, (held monthly), Tenterden, Tonbridge or Tunbridge, and Westerham. There is a market held at long intervals at Eleham, or Elham, on the Lesser Stour, in order to prevent the forfeiture of the charter; and there were formerly markets at Aylesford, St. Mary Cray, Eltham, Goudhurst, Lenham, Town Malling, Queenborough, Smarden, Wrotham, and Wye.

ECCELESIASTICAL AND LEGAL DIVISIONS.

The county was formerly divided between the dioceses of Canterbury and Rochester. The part east of the Medway constituted the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury; it was subdivided into the eleven rural deaneries of Bridge, Canterbury, Charing, Dover, Eleham, Limne, Ospringe, Sandwich, Sittingbourne, Sutton, and Westbere, and comprehended, according to Hasted (A.D. 1778), 281 parishes. The remaining part of the county, west of the Medway, constituted for the most part the diocese and archdeaconry of Rochester; it was subdivided into the three rural deaneries of Dartford, Malling, and Rochester,

and comprehended 98 parishes. The deanery of Shoreham, west of the Medway, comprehending 34 parishes, was in the peculiar jurisdiction of the archbishop of Canterbury.

By the late act, 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 77, provision has been made for the alteration of these arrangements. The parishes of Charlton, Lee, Lewisham, Greenwich, Woolwich, Eltham, Plumstead, and St. Nicholas and St. Paul, Deptford, all hitherto in the deanery of Dartford, and diocese of Rochester, and in the neighbourhood of London, are to form part of the diocese of London: the city and deanery of Rochester are to remain part of the diocese of Rochester; to which diocese nearly the whole of Essex and the whole of Hertfordshire are added; the remainder of Kent is to form the diocese of Canterbury. The deanery of Rochester is to form an archdeaconry.

Kent is in the Home circuit, excepting certain parishes near London, namely, Charlton, Lee, Lewisham, Greenwich, Woolwich, Eltham, Plumstead, and St. Nicholas and St. Paul, Deptford, which are in the jurisdiction (in criminal matters) of the Central Criminal Court. The assizes are held at Maidstone, where are the county gaol and the house of correction. For subordinate jurisdictions the county is divided into East Kent and West Kent; the former comprehending the lathes of St. Augustine and Shepway, and the hundreds of Middleton or Milton, Teynham, Faversham, Bough

ton, Felborough, Wye, Calehill, and Chart, and Longbridge, forming the upper or northern division of the lathe of Scray; the latter comprehending the lathes of Sutton-at-Hone and Aylesford, together with the hundreds of Marden, Cranbrook, Barclay, Blackbourne, Tenterden, Rolvenden, Barnfield (East) and Selbritten, which form the lower or southern division of the lathe of Scray. The justices of the peace, though by their commission appointed for the whole county, usually confine the exercise of their power to their own division of it, and separate quarter-sessions are held for East Kent, at Canterbury, and by adjournment at Maidstone a day or two after, for West Kent.

The same two great divisions are, since the county was divided by the Reform Act, used for parliamentary purposes. East Kent returns two members; the election takes place at Canterbury, and the polling stations are Canterbury, Sittingbourne, Ashford, New Romney, and Ramsgate. West Kent also returns two members; the court for their election is held at Maidstone; and the polling stations are Maidstone, Blackheath, Bromley, Gravesend, Tunbridge, and Cranbrook. Two members each are returned for the cities of Canterbury and Rochester, for the Cinque-ports of Dover and Sandwich, and for the boroughs of Greenwich and Maidstone, and one member each for the Cinque-port of Hythe and the borough of Chatham. The total number now

returned from the whole county is 18. Before the Reform Act it was the same. By that Act New Romney and Queenborough, returning two members each, were disfranchised, and Hythe reduced from two members to one, making a deduction of five members; but the loss was exactly compensated by the division of the county, and the creation of the new boroughs of Greenwich and Chatham.

LOCAL TAXATION AND EXPENDITURE.

In the three years 1748-9-50, the amount expended on the poor averaged each year, 41,997*l.*; in 1776 nearly double, or 80,150*l.*; in 1783-4-5 the annual average was 106,606*l.* The sums expended for relief of the poor at each of the four dates when the census was taken were—

1801	£206,508, being	13 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	for each
1811	317,990	"	17 0 inhabitant.
1821	370,711	"	17 4 "
1831	345,512	"	14 5 "

The sum expended for the same purpose in the year ending 25th March, 1837, was 185,503*l.*; and assuming that the population had increased since 1831 at the same rate of progression as in the ten preceding years, this sum gives an average of 6*s.* 10½*d.* for each inhabitant. These averages are all above the general averages for the whole of England and Wales. In the following year the expenditure amounted to only 174,020*l.*, but in the years ending the 25th March, 1839 and 1840, it was respectively 200,043*l.* and 193,526*l.*

The sum raised in Kent for poor-

rate, county-rate, and other local purposes, in the year ending 25th March, 1833, was 433,274*l.* 16*s.*, and was levied upon various descriptions of property as under :—

On land	£275,810 11 <i>s.</i>
Dwelling-houses	140,513 8
Mills, factories, &c. . .	12,510 17
Manorial profits, navigation, &c.	4,440 0

£433,274 16

In 1826 the assessment of various descriptions of real property to the parish rates, was 68 per cent. on land, 27.9 per cent. on dwelling-houses, 3 per cent. on mills, factories, &c., and 9 per cent. on manorial profits, &c.

The amount of property estimated and assessed under the different schedules of the property-tax in 1814-15 was as follows :—Assessed to the owners, 1,690,024*l.*, namely, profits from lands, 961,368*l.*; houses, 546,502*l.*; tithes, 166,416*l.*; mines, 43*l.*; profits of iron-works, &c., 5,899*l.* Assessed to occupiers, 959,368*l.*; profits of trade, &c., 1,622,458*l.*; public offices and employments, 21,363*l.*

In the four years ending 25th March, 1837, there were raised for local purposes—in 1834, 418,785*l.*; in 1835, 370,718*l.*; in 1836, 313,669*l.*; and in 1837, 215,499*l.*

The county expenditure in 1834, exclusive of that made for the relief of the poor, was 16,692*l.*, of which, considerably more than one half was for the maintenance of prisoners and expenses of gaols and houses of correction (5651*l.*) and for prosecutions (3,562*l.*);

besides a further sum of 1475*l.* for the conveyance of prisoners before trial.

The saving effected on the sum expended for the relief of the poor in 1837, as compared with the expenditure of 1834, was 46 per cent.; while the saving on the entire expenditure, comparing those two years, was 47 per cent.

In 1836 the church-rates amounted to 22,718*l.*, and with 4224*l.* from other sources, formed a fund amounting to 26,942*l.*, of which 15,108*l.* was expended on repairs of churches, and 11,000*l.* for other purposes. In 1832, out of 33,945*l.* expended, 16,460*l.* was for repairs of churches; 2747*l.* for organs, bells, &c.; books, wine, &c., 2164*l.*; salaries to clerks, sextons, &c., 5578*l.*

The number of turnpike-road trusts in Kent, in 1835, was 50; the number of miles of road under their charge was 566. The annual income arising from tolls and parish compositions in lieu of statute duty was, in 1835, 73,674*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, and the annual expenditure in the same year was 72,801*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*

In 1836 the debt of the various trusts amounted to 313,157*l.*, being equal to rather more than four years' income. The proportion of unpaid interest to the total debt was 19 per cent. In 1839 the sum expended on the common roads (4194 miles in length) amounted to 48,364*l.*, the cost of repairs being at the rate of 11*l.* 10*s.* per mile.

The number of persons charged with criminal offences within the county

in each of the three septennial periods ending with 1819, 1826, and 1833, was 2741, 3800, and 4640, being an average of 391 annually in the first period, of 543 in the second period, and of 663 in the third period. From 1834 to 1839 inclusive, the annual average was 903, the average in the first three years of this period being 847, and in the second three years 958.

Of the number accused in 1839 there were—

	Males.	Fem.	Total.
For offences against the person	69	2	71
" " against property,			
" " with violence	64	2	66
" " without violence	625	149	774
For malicious offences against property	3	0	3
For forgery and offences against the currency	22	0	22
For other offences not included above	16	4	20
	799	157	956

The number of persons against whom bills were not found by the grand jury, and who were acquitted on trial, was 241; of the remaining 715 who were convicted, 567 were for simple thefts, and 17 for common assaults. There were 2 persons sentenced to death. Of the remaining convicts, there were transported—for life, 2; for above 15 years, 12; for 15 years and above 10 years, 23; for 10 years and above 7 years, 50; for 7 years, 81; total, 166. Imprisoned for 2 years and above 1 year, 16; for 1 year and above 6 months, 76; for 6 months and under, 450; total, 542. Whipped, fined, or discharged on sureties, 5.

The number of electors qualified to vote for the county members in Kent

at the registration of 1837 was, for the eastern division 7293, and for the western division 8432, being about 1 in 30 of the whole population, and about 1 in 10 of the male population 20 years of age and upwards, as taken in 1831. In 1840 the total number of electors on the register for East Kent was 7344, and for West Kent 8661, making a total of 16,000 for the county. The number of freeholders was 12,260, and of occupying tenants at a rent of 50*l*. 266*9*.

There are 21 savings' banks in Kent. The number of depositors in these, and the amount of their deposits as they stood on the 20th of November in each of the undermentioned years, was as follows:—

	1833.	1836.	1839.
Depositors	18,188	21,328	25,130
Deposits	£531,018	£613,804	£704,082

The number of depositors of sums under 20*l*. was 10,644 in 1834; in 1837 12,506; and 14,359 in 1839; the amount invested being for each year respectively 75,017*l*., 86,194*l*., and 96,524*l*. In 1836, 266 charitable institutions and 176 friendly societies had deposits in the various savings' banks; and in 1839 the number of the former had increased to 375, having 20,742*l*. invested; and the number of friendly societies had increased to 216, their investments amounting to 27,781*l*.

EDUCATION.

The returns made to parliament in 1833 exhibit the following results of the inquiry into the state of education

in that year. Infant schools (dame schools are entered under this head) 207; attended by 4515 children. Daily schools 1488; children attending them 49,206, making a total of 1695 daily schools, and 53,721 children under daily instruction. The number of Sunday schools was 479; Sunday scholars 37,523. At the time this return was made, the estimated number of children in the county between the ages of 2 and 15 was 127,096, or about 120,000 between the ages of 5 and 15. The number of children under instruction at both daily and Sunday schools appears by the return to have been 91,244; but there are no means of detecting the extent to which duplicates were made. There were, for example, 92 entries of schools containing 7209 children which were both daily and Sunday schools, and duplicate entry is known to have been thus far

created; but how much further this cause of error extends it is impossible to say.

Lending-libraries of books were attached to 53 schools. It has already been stated that the number of uneducated persons charged with criminal offences is higher in Kent than in any of the south-eastern counties. In 1838 the number of persons who attested their marriages by a mark instead of writing their names, was 34 per cent., which proportion was the same as prevailed in Surrey and Hampshire, and was more favourable than the result which some other counties presented. But this is far from being a safe guide; and before a comparison can be fairly instituted between two different parts of the country, the proportion of the different classes of society in each should be known.

CHAPTER II.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN LONDON AND KENT.

RAILWAYS.

THERE are three railways in the county, which we shall notice chronologically as they were constructed :—1. The Canterbury and Whitstable Railway commences on the sea-shore in Whitstable Bay, opposite the eastern point of the Isle of Sheppey, and passing through Clowes Wood, St. Stephen's, and St. Dunstan's, terminates on the north side of the city of Canterbury adjoining the river Stour. The length of the line, which consists of a single track, is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles, formed into a series of inclined planes, several of which are of too great an inclination to allow of locomotive power, and accordingly three stationary engines, two of twenty-five horse-power each, and the other of fifteen horse-power, are provided : on a small portion of the line, which is nearly level, locomotive engines are used. A mile and a quarter from Canterbury is a tunnel 12 feet wide, 12 feet high, and about half a mile long. The highest point, which occurs about midway on the line, is 220 feet above the level of the sea at Whitstable. The object of this railway was chiefly to give facilities to

the trade between London and Canterbury. Among its earliest effects may be mentioned the reduction, amounting to more than one half, in the charge for the conveyance of coal from Whitstable to Canterbury. The Act for forming the line was obtained in 1825, and a capital of 31,000*l.* was raised in the first instance, but this proving insufficient, it was subsequently increased to 111,000*l.* : passengers as well as goods are conveyed. Before the opening of the line in May, 1830, the number of passengers between the two places was about 4000 yearly ; whereas above 26,000 persons have been conveyed upon the railway in a single year, at a charge of 9*d.* for each person.

2. The London and Greenwich Railway connects the city of London with the populous towns of Deptford and Greenwich, by a line which shortens the distance nearly one-third. It begins at the east side of the south foot of London Bridge, and is carried in nearly a straight line to the High-street of Deptford, whence it is continued with a gentle curve across the Ravensbourne River to its terminus,

about 200 yards from the church at Greenwich. The rails are laid throughout on a viaduct, composed of about 1000 arches, each of 18 feet span, 22 feet high, and 25 feet in width from side to side. This form of construction was adopted in consequence of the number of streets over which it was necessary to carry the line. The arches are of brick, and on each side of the viaduct there is a parapet wall about four feet high. At the base of the arches a gravelled foot-path has been formed and planted with trees, and this is open to foot-passengers on payment of a small toll. It was at one time supposed that a considerable sum would be derived from letting the arches for warehouses, workshops, shops, and dwellings; but the Company have not yet derived any profits from this source. The London and Greenwich Railway Company was incorporated in 1835, and the line was opened to Deptford in 1836, and to Greenwich in 1838. The branch from Deptford to the Thames, intended for steam-boat passengers, has not yet been constructed. The present capital of the Company amounts to the enormous sum of 993,000*l.*, the original capital being 533,000*l.* On an average the number of passengers conveyed daily by this railroad exceeds 4000; but at particular periods, as at Easter and Whitsuntide, and on other holidays, the traffic is enormous, and trains start every few minutes, that is, as soon as the carriages are filled.

The Greenwich line receives the

traffic of three other railways, namely: the Croydon, the Brighton, and the Dover (or South-Eastern) Railways. The Croydon Railway commences at Corbet's Lane, Rotherhithe, and passes through the parishes of Deptford, Beckenham, and Lewisham, when it enters Surrey, and terminates at Croydon, 10½ miles from London Bridge, and 8½ from the point of junction with the Greenwich line. It is to a limited extent available for those who desire to visit several parts of Kent in the immediate vicinity of London.

The Brighton Railway is connected with the Croydon line, and passes east of Reigate and Cuckfield to its terminus at Brighton. The South-Eastern Railway parts from this line near Reigate.

3. The South-Eastern Railway.—The Act for incorporating the South-Eastern Railway Company was obtained in 1836. The original capital was 1,400,000*l.*, with power to borrow 450,000*l.* on mortgage, making a total capital of 1,850,000*l.* A careful estimate of the probable traffic on the line, from repeated inquiries and personal observation, gives a gross income of 382,000*l.* per annum, from which the usual deduction for expenditure is one-half, or 191,000*l.* Some of the detailed statements of traffic illustrate the nature and extent of intercommunication within the county, and on this account an abstract of them is not out of place in the present work. The number of stage-coaches licensed to pass between

London and various places in the county, and from one place to another within the county, was 82 in October, 1838, performing 706 journeys each week, and conveying 275,000 passengers per annum. The experience of the effect of railways justifies the practice of doubling the number of coach passengers to realize the number who will make use of the railway; and in this case the number of passengers on the railway may be expected to exceed 500,000 each year. The present number of coach passengers yearly between London and Canterbury is 39,000; London and Dover 33,000; London and Tunbridge Wells 31,000; London and Hastings 34,000; London and Maidstone 26,000; London and Sevenoaks 11,000; London and Tenterden 5600; Canterbury and Deal 13,000; Canterbury and Dover 26,000; Herne Bay and Dover 18,000. The number of passengers now travelling by steam-boats between London and Calais, Boulogne, Ostend, Margate, Ramsgate, and Dover, is 130,000 per annum, of which between one-fourth and one-fifth would be conveyed by railway when the line is open. The numbers travelling post or in private carriages between London and Dover is 50,000 a year; London and Tunbridge Wells, Hastings, and St. Leonard's, 56,000; London, Ashford, Sandgate, and the coast, 12,000; and it is conjectured that one-half of this number would travel by the railway.

The South-Eastern Railway may be said to commence at Redstone Hill, in

the parish of Reigate, from a point on the London and Brighton Railway, about 20 miles distant from London Bridge. Starting from London Bridge, we proceed on the Greenwich Railway to Corbet's Lane, when we enter the Croydon Railway, and on Croydon Common leave this line and enter the Brighton Railway. The distance from Croydon to Redstone Hill, where the lines to Brighton and Dover part, is 12 miles, and this portion of the line is held by the South-Eastern and Brighton companies respectively, in equal shares and with equal rights. In combination with the Croydon Railway, the railway is a joint line for the first 20 miles out of London. To provide for the great amount of traffic from these three lines, the Greenwich Railway Company have constructed two additional lines of rails from London Bridge to the point where the Croydon Railway diverges, and have remedied an inconvenience which formerly existed by exchanging stations; and the Croydon station being now on the right of the line, it is not necessary for the Croydon trains to cross the Greenwich line of rails. A station befitting the City terminus of these several important railways will be completed at the joint expense of the South-Eastern, Brighton, and Croydon Companies.

There are now three railways which, commencing at London, terminate at the sea, and command in a great degree the traffic of a line of coast extending from the North Foreland in

East Kent to St. Alban's Head in Wiltshire, a distance of nearly 200 miles, and comprising the three large and wealthy counties of Kent, Sussex, and Hampshire, with the county of Surrey between them, the whole four having a population exceeding 1,500,000, and, adding the inhabitants of Middlesex, we have a population of 3,000,000 to whom these three great coast-lines offer the best means of transit to and from the metropolis and the southern coast.

The South-Eastern Railway, in addition to its value as the great thoroughfare to the Continent, embraces a range of interesting places of fashionable and general resort, including Tunbridge and Tunbridge Wells, and the marine districts of Walmer, Dover, Folkstone, Sandgate, Hythe, Rye, Hastings, and St. Leonard's, and passes through the centre of the hop country.

After leaving the Brighton Railway, the South-Eastern line passes a little to the south of the villages of Nutfield and Bletchingley, lying at the foot of the chalk-hills. The Bletchingley Tunnel, 1080 yards in length, commences $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of the diverging point on the Brighton line. The railway enters Kent a little to the north of Edenbridge, and passes in a direct line to Tunbridge, where the central station is established, comprising 12 acres, and consisting of offices, workshops, and warehouses for the reception of goods. Here the traffic of the central parts of the county, and from various parts of Sussex, will come into the line; and from this point or from

Tudeley, three miles east of Tunbridge, a branch will probably be formed to Maidstone. The cuttings, embankments, and viaducts forming the level across the valley of the Medway and its various tributaries, are of considerable magnitude. The distance from London to Tunbridge by the railway is 40 miles. From the diverging point near Reigate, the railway is carried in nearly a straight line to Ashford, a distance of 44 miles, and from Maiden to Ashford, 23 miles, it is nearly level as well as straight, and the cost of construction will be only about 12,000*l.* per mile, exclusive of the purchase of the land. Staplehurst, midway between Tunbridge and Ashford, will be the centre of the traffic of East Sussex; and a new road in course of formation will connect Hastings with the railway at this point. A branch line is projected from Ashford to Canterbury, to be carried along the valley of the Stour; and this branch might probably be advantageously extended to Ramsgate and Margate. At Ashford the railway makes a bend of three miles in the parish of Mersham, through the estate of Sir Edward Knatchbull, and then turns towards Folkstone through an undulating country, in which deep and heavy cuttings and embankments are necessary to preserve the level. From Folkstone to Dover, the works on the line become highly interesting in an engineering point of view. Arriving at Folkstone, the narrow abrupt valley is crossed by a viaduct 100 feet in height, and from

thence by a considerable embankment the railway crosses the Dover and Canterbury turnpike roads by means of a double skewed bridge; and passing thence by a deep cutting, crosses the ridge or cliff which separates the land from the sea at that place, by means of a short tunnel called the Martello Tunnel, one-fourth of a mile in length. It then enters immediately upon the Warren or Undercliff, a singularly rough and undulating piece of ground about two miles in length, which is passed by a series of deep cuttings varying from 20 to 120 feet in depth. The earthwork in these two miles contained upwards of 1,000,000 cubic yards of material. At the eastern end of the warren the railway enters the main chalk cliff, and proceeds about one mile in a tunnel called the Abbot's Cliff Tunnel, from which it comes out upon the perpendicular face of the cliffs at an elevation of about sixty feet above the sea at low water. It passes within a parapet along the face of the cliffs in a perfectly straight line for about another mile, supported by a wall of concrete (similar to the great sea-wall supporting the Marine Parade at Brighton), when it again enters a tunnel of nearly a mile long, called the Shakspeare Tunnel, from which it emerges in the face of the cliffs between the Shakspeare Cliff and Arch-Cliff Fort upon a raised platform or embankment a few feet only above the beach. Here there is a temporary station, but ultimately the station will

be in the town of Dover near the Quays.*

The total length of the line from London to Dover will be $86\frac{1}{2}$ miles; from the diverging point near Reigate the South-Eastern Line Proper is $66\frac{1}{2}$; of which about 60 miles is through Kent. The line will be opened as far as Tunbridge in May, 1842; to Staplehurst, 10 miles further, in July, 1842; and the whole line will be opened early in the summer of 1843. Stations will be established at every point where the local traffic is of sufficient importance to render a station necessary. The principal stations will be at the point where the line parts from the Brighton Railway, and at Tunbridge, Staplehurst, Ashford, Folkstone, and at the Dover terminus. The sub-stations will be at convenient intermediate points.

ROADS.

Three principal roads traverse the county. 1. The Dover road enters the county at New Cross, $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles from London, and runs east-south-east in a very direct line through Deptford, Greenwich, Dartford (15 miles from London), Gravesend (22 miles), Rochester and Chatham (30 miles), Sittingbourne (40 miles) and Canterbury (55 miles) to Dover (71 miles). The principal communication between London and the Continent is by this road.

2. The Hythe road branches off from the Dover road at New Cross, and runs

* Reports of W. Cubitt, Esq., the engineer of the South-Eastern Railway.

south-east through Eltham, Farningham, and Wrotham, to Maidstone (34 miles); and from thence by Lenham (44 miles); Charing, and Ashford (53 miles), to Hythe (65 miles).

3. The Hastings road branches off from the Hythe and Maidstone road more than a mile beyond New Cross, and diverging more towards the south, passes through Bromley, Sevenoaks (24 miles), and Tunbridge (30 miles); at Lamberhurst (40 miles) it crosses a projecting angle of Sussex, and finally quits Kent for Sussex near Flimwell (45 miles). The road travelled by the Hastings mail diverges from this road at Tunbridge, and passes through Tunbridge Wells (36 miles from London).

Besides the above there are the following important highways: The road to Rye, branching off from the principal Hastings road just before it quits Kent, and passing through Hawkhurst and Newenden (53 miles), where it crosses the Rother into Sussex.

The roads to Margate and Ramsgate, and to Sandwich and Deal, branch off from the Dover road at Canterbury, and a branch from the Hastings road near Lamberhurst leads to Cranbrook and Tenterden in the Weald, and to New Romney near the sea.

RIVERS.

That magnificent highway of commerce, the Thames, affords extraor-

dinary facilities for intercourse between London and Kent. The Medway is navigable to the very heart of the county, and even far into West Kent.

CANALS.

The principal canal in the county is the Royal Military Canal, which was formed, rather for the purposes of defence than of commerce, during the alarm of invasion in the late war against Napoleon. It has however since been converted to commercial use. It runs along the edge of Romney Marsh from its commencement in the sea near Hythe, to its junction with the Rother in the south-eastern corner of Oxney Isle. The line of this canal is very little above the level of the sea.

An Act was obtained in 1812 for a canal to be cut from the Medway, just above the junction of the Teyse, to Ashford. It was to take a circuitous course through the Weald, and to have a branch by Tenterden to the Royal Military Canal. Nothing has ever been done under this Act.

A canal, about nine miles long, extending from Gravesend to Frindsbury, opposite Chatham, unites the Thames and the Medway, and saves a circuitous navigation of 47 miles round the extremity of the Isle of Grain. It passes, by a tunnel about two miles long, through the chalk hills. There is a basin at each end of the canal.

CHAPTER III.

VICINITY OF LONDON.

It is not easy to define a limit which shall be generally understood when we speak of the vicinity of a place; and this is more especially the case at the present time, when new and more expeditious means of locomotion are coming into general operation. The opening of a railroad may suddenly enable us to reach a place by a journey of forty or fifty minutes which was before only accessible after several hours' travelling. It was then not in our vicinity, but it has now become so, though it may be twenty miles off. It is certainly a pleasant reflection for the inhabitants of large cities that the circle in which they may taste the enjoyments of the country now comprises a much more extensive district, and that without any more loss of time they may spend a summer's day at a distance from home which could not have been contemplated formerly without something like the preparations for a *tour*. In the present chapter we shall visit the old royal palace of Eltham, which is near enough to the metropolis for a pedestrian excursion.

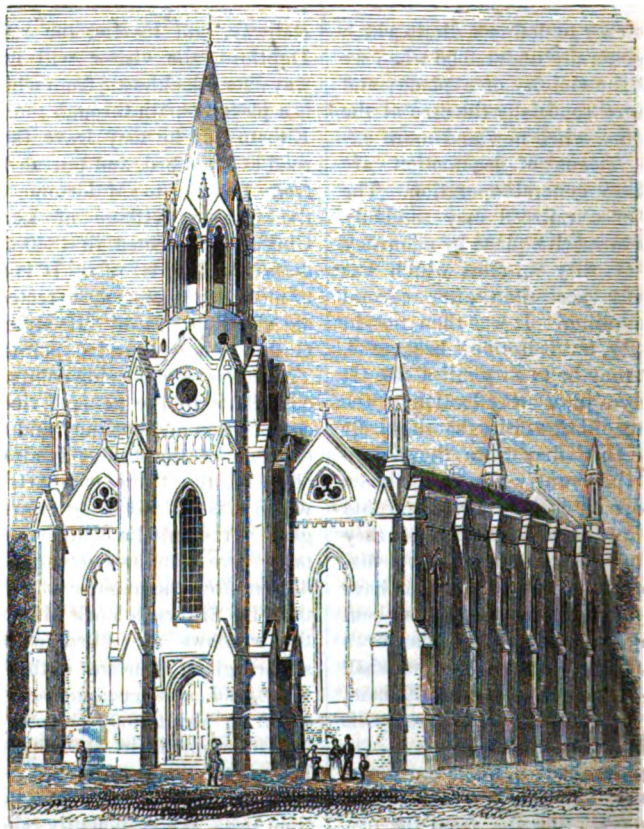
Eltham is about 8 miles south-east of London. It may be reached in various ways. Starting from the foot of London Bridge by the Greenwich

Railway, and leaving the railway at Deptford, the visitor will make his way over Blackheath, from which there is a pleasant path through the fields to Eltham; or he may leave the Dover road at Deptford, and pursue the road from London to Maidstone, through the pleasant village of Lee. Lee Church was erected in 1840, from the designs of Mr. Brown. It is superior to most of the churches erected by the aid of public grants. Its style is early Gothic or lancet-headed pointed style. The gables over the side compartments contribute to the general richness of composition and outline; and the eastern end of the edifice is also highly effective, the three compartments in which it is divided being crowned by a gable: the middle compartment contains five windows grouped in one design after the manner of that called the Five Sisters in York Minster. All the windows are filled with richly stained glass. The cost of the building was 8,200*l.*, and accommodation is provided for about 1,000 persons. There is a monument in the old church to Halley, the astronomer.

Eltham is little more than two miles from Lee. It was anciently called Ealdham, and was once a market-town.

The church consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with a tower and spire at the western end. There are several interesting monuments in the church ; namely, to John Lilburne, who acted a conspicuous part during the Commonwealth and in the events which pre-

ceded that æra ; to Thomas Dogget, an actor, contemporary of Colley Cibber, who left a prize to be competed for annually by the watermen of London ; to Dr. James Sherard, who had a botanic garden at Eltham ; and to Dr. Horne, Bishop of Norwich.



[Lee Church.]

The old palace was anciently one of the most magnificent royal edifices in England. The property is ascertained to have belonged to the Crown in the time of the Saxons. The Conqueror granted it to one of his Norman followers; but having again been forfeited to the Crown, it was given by Edward I. to one of the most powerful barons of those times—John de Vesci. Soon after this it came into the possession of Anthony Bec, the famous military Bishop of Durham, who is accused, however, of having made the acquisition by the most shameless violation of his trust, as guardian of the legal heir. Bec is the earliest proprietor of the manor who is recorded to have erected any buildings on the site of the palace—although there can be little doubt that there was a house there before his time. He built a large and splendid mansion, which appears to have been completed soon after the middle of the thirteenth century, King Henry III., accompanied by his queen and all the principal nobility, having kept his Christmas here in 1269. This was probably the warming of the house. On the death of the Bishop, which took place here in 1310, the manor of Eltham fell again to the crown, in the possession of which it has ever since remained. For the next two centuries the place was a favourite residence of our monarchs. Edward II.'s son John was born here in 1315, and was thence called John of Eltham. In the reign of Edward III. the Parliament was on

several occasions assembled at Eltham; and here that prince, in 1365, entertained his captive, John, King of France, with sumptuous hospitality. The palace was almost entirely rebuilt by Edward IV., who, on the conclusion of the work in 1482, is recorded to have kept his Christmas in the Hall with great state and splendour. Large additions were afterwards made to the building by Henry VII., who, like his predecessors, generally lived here, and was wont to dine every day in the hall, surrounded by his barons. At this time the royal palace of Eltham consisted of four quadrangles enclosed within a high wall, beyond which was a moat of great width: the whole formed an irregular area, approaching to a square in shape, to which the principal entry was over a bridge and through a gateway in the north wall. There was also another bridge and gate at the opposite side of the enclosure. Of the buildings the most important part consisted of a high range which crossed the court from east to west, and included the hall, the chapel, and the state apartments. To the palace were attached a garden and three parks, comprehending together above 1300 acres, besides the demesne lands of 400 acres more. These parks were stocked with deer, and many fine old trees that still remain testify how richly wooded the place must have formerly been.

Of all this magnificence but little now remains; and many parts of the buildings can scarcely be traced even

in their foundations. Henry VIII. deserted Eltham for the new palace of Greenwich, which, as being nearer to London, was probably found to be a more convenient residence. After this Eltham was only occasionally visited by the sovereign; which it sometimes was even in the time of James I. On the establishment of the Commonwealth the place was seized by the parliament and sold; and at the same time the parks were broken into, and the deer dispersed and killed by the soldiers and the common people. The work of devastation, thus begun, was continued until the greater part of the palace also was first reduced to a heap of ruins, and then swept away altogether; and although the property was recovered by the crown at the Restoration, no pains seem to have been taken to save the remnant of the pile from spoliation and destruction. On the contrary, the business of demolition was now carried on upon system: the old palace was turned into a quarry; and stone after stone was carried away as it was wanted for even the meanest purposes, until scarcely anything remained which it was thought worth while to remove. Fortunately, it was considered that the hall would make a good barn; and to this ignoble appropriation, which so well hit the economical humour of the times, we owe the preservation, in a state of comparative entireness, of this principal and most interesting portion of the noble old palace of Eltham.

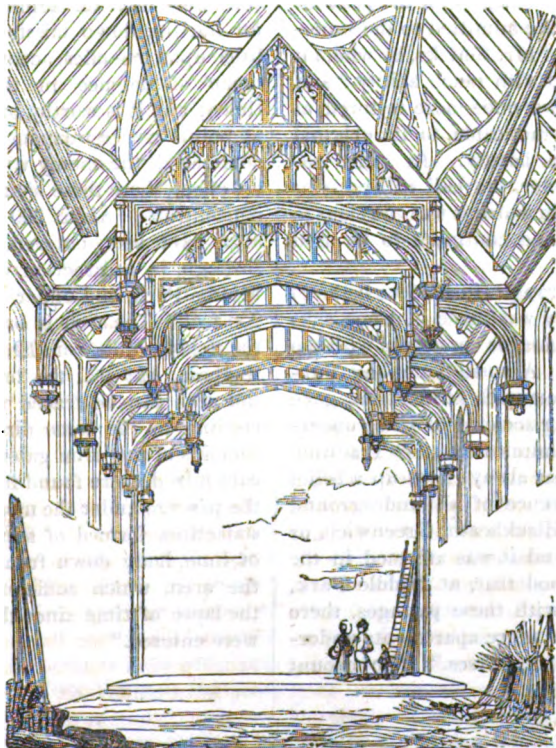
According to Mr. Buckler, who published a valuable account of this palace a few years ago, the length of the hall in the inside is above 101 feet by about 36½ in width. "The interior," says this writer, "is magnificent. The taste and talent of ages are concentrated in its design; and it is scarcely possible to imagine proportions more just and noble, a plan more perfect, ornaments more appropriate and beautiful; in a word, a whole more harmonious than this regal banqueting-room." The windows, which, however, have been long built up, are ranged in couples along both sides; and each series is terminated by a bay window at the west or upper end of the hall. But the most conspicuous ornament of this fine room is its splendid roof. "The main beams of the roof," says Mr. Buckler, "are full 17 inches square and 28 feet long, perfectly straight and sound throughout, and are the produce of trees of the most stately growth. A forest must have yielded its choicest timber for the supply of this building; and it is evident that the material has been wrought with incredible labour and admirable skill." The roof of Westminster Hall, completed in 1399, about thirty years earlier than that of Eltham, is one of the first examples of the new style of decorating the open roof which accompanied the last modification of Gothic architecture, and is the parent of many others of the fifteenth and following century still more elaborately

decorated. Such are the roofs of the old halls of Eltham Palace, Crosby Place, London, the college of Christ Church at Oxford, and Hampton Court.*

This hall was undoubtedly the erection of Edward IV., whose well-known symbol, the expanded rose, is still to

be seen on various parts of the building. About the year 1828 the public attention was called to the state of this beautiful remnant of our ancient architecture, which it was understood there was an intention of levelling with the ground, on the pretext that the roof in some parts showed signs of decay, and threatened to fall if not taken down. It had been resolved, it

• Pict. Hist. England, vol. ii. p. 288.



[The Great Hall of Eltham Palace.]

seems, to remove the roof to some new building at Windsor or elsewhere, and then to demolish the rest of the hall. By the exertions, however, of some individuals of taste and influence a reconsideration of the subject was obtained; and eventually it was determined by the Government to advance a small sum, in order to effect such a partial repair of the hall as might at least secure its stability for the present. The work was committed to the superintendence of Mr. Smirke, by whom it was executed with much ability; and the roof is now once more restored, as far as was practicable, to its original strength and beauty. In other respects, however, the hall still remains in the state in which it was previous to the repairs, and continues to be used as a barn.

A few years ago (in 1836 we believe) the discovery was made of some subterranean passages connected with the old palace. A small pamphlet published at Greenwich at the time gave the following account of these underground communications:—"Tradition (it is said) has always kept up a belief of the existence of an underground passage to Blackheath, Greenwich, or the river; and it was affirmed in the neighbourhood that, at Middle Park, connected with these passages, there were one or more apartments underground for sixty horses." The account

then proceeds:—"Under the ground-floor of one of the apartments of the palace, a trap-door opens into a room underground, ten feet by five feet; and, proceeding from it, a narrow passage, of about ten feet in length, conducts the passenger to the series of passages, with decoys, stairs, and shafts, some of which are vertical, and others on an inclined plane, which were once used for admitting air, and for hurling down missiles and pitch-balls upon enemies, according to the mode of defence in those ancient times; and it is worthy of notice that, at points where weapons from above could assail the enemy with the greatest effect, there these shafts verge and concentrate. About 500 feet of passage have been entered, and passed through, in a direction west, towards Middle Park, and under the moat for 200 feet. The arch is broken into in the field leading from Eltham to Mottingham, but still the brick-work of the arch can be traced farther, proceeding in the same direction. The remains of two iron gates, completely carbonized, were found in that part of the passage under the moat; and large stalactites, formed of super-carbonate of lime, hung down from the roof of the arch, which sufficiently indicate the lapse of time since these passages were entered."

CHAPTER IV.

TO THE SOURCE OF THE RAVENSBOURNE, AND HAYES,
BROMLEY, BECKENHAM, &c.

THIS will be found a very agreeable excursion. The Ravensbourne rises on Keston Common, near the border of Surrey, and flows northward past the town of Bromley and the village of Lewisham, and between the towns of Greenwich and Deptford, into the Thames. It turns several mills, and supplies Greenwich and Deptford with water by means of waterworks. It is navigable for nearly a mile up to Deptford Bridge for lighters and other small craft. The whole length of the river is about ten miles. The head of the Ravensbourne shall be our starting-point: its course from thence to the Thames at Deptford, our course: from Deptford we can return to the great town again by the Greenwich Railway, for we propose in this ramble to use that magnificent mode of locomotion in whatever way may be most convenient to us, or to those who, interested in the scenes described, or the associations with which these scenes are connected, may honour us by personally wandering through the same routes.

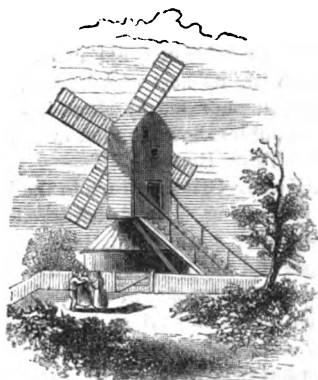
We therefore make no apology for commencing with a ramble to the rail-

way before mentioned, or in leaving the Elephant and Castle by the older, slower, but more picturesque conveyance. So the Tunbridge Wells coach sets us down by one of the lodge gates of Holwood Park, thirteen miles from London; from thence a road leads to Keston Cross, where there is a well-known inn, standing, it is supposed, on the site of some old cross, and which, with its host and hostler, has been commemorated by Hone in some of the rambles about London described in his "Table-Book."

At Keston Cross we turn to the left, and pass along a road bordered by wild-looking park plantations, where the graceful and feathery birch is seen rising to a considerable height, its slender stems frosted as it were with silver. At a short distance, the road, which has been gradually rising, opens upon a heath spreading away to a considerable distance on the right; on the left is Holwood Park, with the beautiful lodge, and in front the summit of the eminence known as Holwood Hill.

Just at the foot of this hill the heath opens into a long hollow, where first we find the source of the Ravens-

bourne, and then three large artificial ponds formed by its waters. Beyond the latter its stream is so small as to be imperceptible to the eye as it flows through some broad meadows partially screened by plantations. Among the other features of this beautiful place, we must not omit to notice one of those picturesque objects, so characteristic of an English landscape, the windmill on the heath on our left, and the distant hills, yet bathed in the purple light of the morning, of Norwood and Forest Hill, beside which the great metropolitan dome may be often seen in front, and Shooters' Hill, Chiselhurst, &c., to the right.



[Mill, Keston Common.]

The history or tradition of the origin of the Ravensbourne is thus described by Hone:—"When Cæsar was encamped here, his troops were in great need of water, and none could be found in the vicinity. Observing, however, that a

raven frequently alighted near the camp, and conjecturing that it was for the purpose of quenching its thirst, he ordered the coming of the bird to be watched for, and the spot to be particularly noted. This was done, and the result was as he anticipated. The object of the raven's resort was this little spring; from thence Cæsar derived a supply of water for the Roman legions; and from the circumstance of its discovery, the spring was called the Raven's bourne or brook." The water was formerly in great repute for its medicinal virtues, and was used to bathe in. Till about the commencement of the present century there was a bathing-house, overhung with some very beautiful trees. The spring and the heath then formed the great objects of attraction to the gentry and other residents of the neighbourhood for some miles round: on a bright summer day Keston Common (as the heath is called) might often be seen dotted, as it were, with parties of people, the gay costume of the ladies contrasted upon the brown heath, and the air ringing with the sounds of laughter and music. The crystal waters of the Ravensbourne now rise into the circular basin shown in our engraving, through small holes with which its bottom is entirely pierced: from the basin they flow through an opening near its top into a concealed trough, and then into the first of the ponds. It never stops, never dries up; it flows to-day as it flowed two thousand years ago, when the Roman saw

it bubbling up almost concealed in the brown heath.

The Roman camp referred to in the tradition to which we have alluded yet remains, for a part of its course, in

excellent preservation. We pass towards it through Holwood Park, along a fine wild-looking dell, known as the "Vale of Thorns," which leads up to the beautiful mansion of Holwood: be-

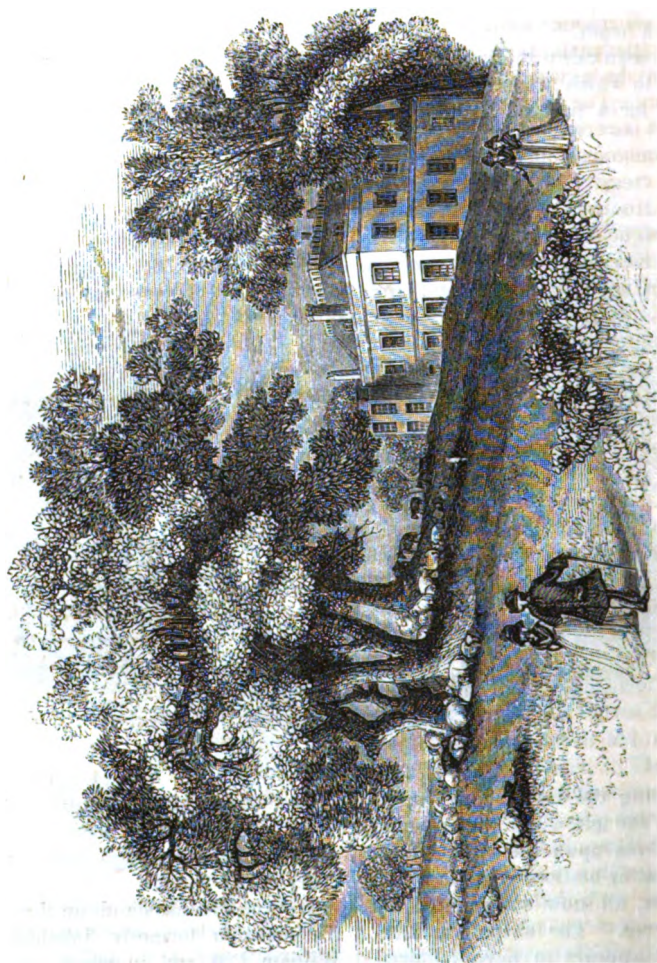


[Source of the Ravensbourne.]

ore reaching the latter, however, we turn off to the left, where we presently find ourselves upon the outer of the three banks, or bastions of earth which defended it, all now surmounted by lines of trees. The shape was irregular, and appears to have followed the course of the ground, which here forms a large elevated terrace. There is little doubt but this was the Ro-

man station of *Noviomagus*. Roman bricks and tiles have been continually turned up by the plough, and coins and other things found.

Holwood House stands on the site of the mansion formerly inhabited by William Pitt, and in which, we have been informed, he had a room almost entirely hung round with the chief political caricatures of the day that



[Holwood House, Hayes, the Seat of Lord Chatham. From a drawing made in 1795.]

had been levelled at him. An oak, with a short but immensely thick trunk, in the park, is known as Pitt's Oak: its shade was a favourite spot with him. The present mansion of Holwood is very handsome and large, and commands from its eastern front a most extensive and charming valley, bounded in the distance by the hills about Sevenoaks and Knowle.

From Keston Common, on and near which we have been so long tarrying, we walk across the fields into the high road towards Hayes, which presently takes us through another heath, also glowing with golden blossoms, and which some of the numerous flock of sheep interspersed abroad are nibbling off with a gusto that must gladden the heart of a poet to behold. The heath is soon exchanged again for a high road, but it is a very pleasant one, and bordered by a luxuriant foliage most of the way, and

"Every copse

Deep tangled, tree irregular, and bush
Bending with dewy moisture o'er the heads
Of the gay choristers that lodge within,
Are prodigal of harmony."

Beautiful mansions, too, here and there with their extensive pleasure-grounds, and small cottages, with their little garden-plots in front, attract the eye, and remind us that summer monopolizes not all those beautiful tribes which form the poetry of the soil. Along the "blushing borders" we see—

"The daisy, primrose, violet blue,
And polyanthus of unnumbered dyes;
The yellow wall-flower, stained with iron-brown,
And lavish stock that scents the garden round;

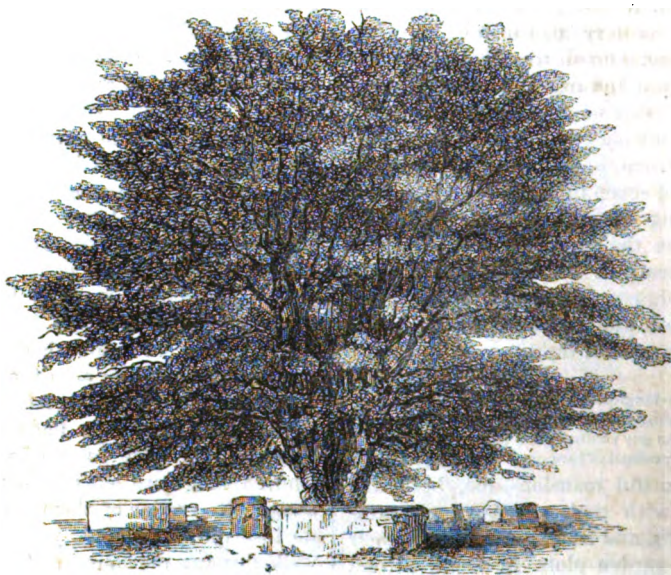
From the soft wing of vernal breezes shed,
Anemones; auriculas, enriched
With shining meal, o'er all their velvet leaves;
And full ranunculus of glowing red."

The principal attraction of Hayes is its connection with the Pitt family, the elder having built the house, and the younger having been born here. Where they lived, the rooks, cawing so obstreperously in the trees which overhang the lofty wall on our left tell us plainly enough. So attached was the great Earl of Chatham to the place he had built and adorned, that, having sold it in 1766, when some other estate came into his possession, he could not rest till he had repurchased it, which he succeeded in doing in 1768. All the latter years of his life were spent here, the improvement of Hayes forming his chief occupation. The church opposite is a curiously old and patched building—flints, bricks, and stone huddled together; old windows closed up here, and new ones opened there. After Chatham's funeral, the flags used on that occasion were set up in Hayes Church, and there left till they rotted away. No vestige of them, no tablet, no inscription, reminds you, as you walk through the church, of the distinguished man who had doubtless so often worshipped in it. The churchyard is quite a model of the rustic old English burial-place, with its long luxuriant grass, and quiet-looking pleasant aspect. In the corner is a magnificent yew, the entire body of which is gone, leaving but a mere

shell split into two or three parts, yet putting forth a noble array of branches and leaves, as though it had but now reached its prime.

Between Hayes and Bromley, at a place called Hayes' Ford, the high road crosses the Ravensbourne, which here increases somewhat in size, and advances with a little more rapidity: the tiniest of streams has changed into

one of the smallest of rivers. Leaving it, a little on our left, to wind round the base of Bromley Hill, we take a shorter path through the fields towards a delightful green lane which runs over the brow of an eminence opposite that on which Bromley is situated, and so reach that very clean, agreeable-looking town.



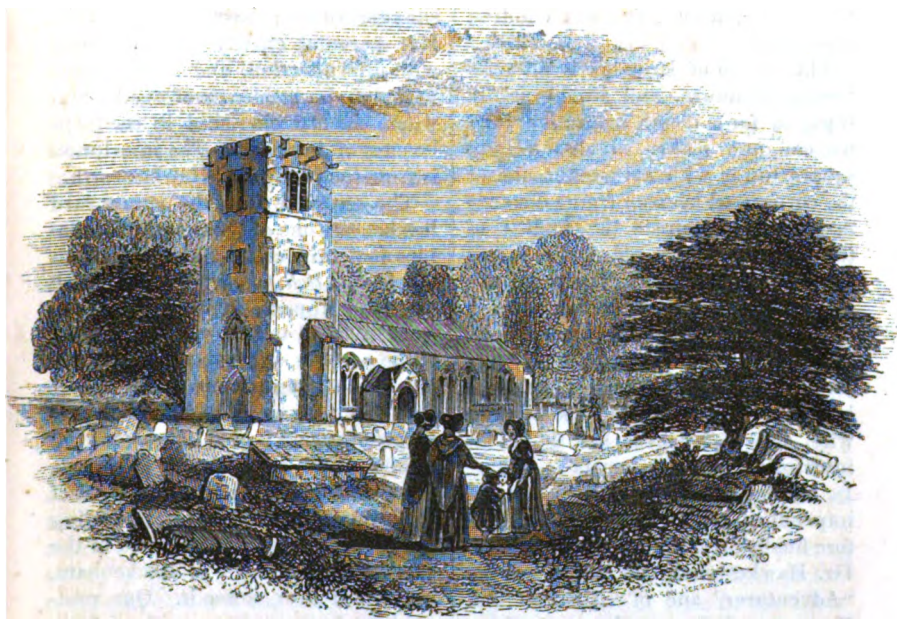
[Yew-tree in Hayes Churchyard.]

Bromley derives its name from *Brom-leag*, a field or heath where *broom* grows; an etymology confirmed by the present aspect of the neighbourhood. The town consists principally of one street, with neat well-built

houses, and having a market-house in the middle of the town supported on wooden pillars. Bromley dates its history from no less remote a time than that when the county had its own monarchs; one of whom, Ethelbert,

in the eighth century, gave Bromley to the bishops of Rochester, who appear to have ever since made it their residence. One of them, Bishop Ford, was murdered here in 1261. The existing palace is a plain unassuming edifice of brick, rebuilt in 1777. In its gardens we find a chalybeate spring, 'St. Blaise's Well,' formerly much resorted to for its admirable medicinal qualities, and from the fact that there was an oratory attached to it, with indulgences for all who came hither to worship. The oratory long ago sank

into ruin, and the well itself was forgotten and lost sight of, till the year 1754, when it was repaired, and a picturesque-looking covering or roof on wooden pillars placed over it to shelter those who came to drink of its healing waters. It is now again much decayed. Bromley is also distinguished for a very magnificent charitable institution. As we pass along the town towards the London extremity, we see on the right a very stately manorial-looking building of brick, with wings projecting forward a little from



[Bromley Church.]

each end, and a handsome doorway and flight of steps in the centre; the whole surrounded by beautiful and extensive grounds. This is Bromley College, founded by Dr. Warner, bishop of Rochester, who died in 1666, for the widows of clergymen (to the number of twenty) of the established church who might be left in distressed circumstances. Subsequent benefactions have doubled the number. The inmates receive 30*l.* 10*s.* each per annum. Five additional houses have also just been built by Mrs. Sheppard for the daughters of such ladies as, dying in the college, have left their children destitute.

The church of Bromley is an interesting structure, and would amply repay us for a closer inspection than we can now make. It has a lofty square tower with a turret at one of the corners, which seen from a distance makes one anticipate the finding of the keep of some old fortress still frowning defiance over the broad valley extending below, rather than a house of God stilling the very neighbourhood around by its air of "exceeding peace." Hither Dr. Johnson brought the remains of his beloved wife, and placed over her the Latin inscription that now meets our gaze. In his despair at the misery he saw impending, he had but three days before finally discontinued his 'Rambler.' Dr. Hawkesworth, the author of the 'Adventurer,' and of 'Almorán and Hamet,' and the translator of 'Telemachus,' also lies here. There are

some interesting monuments to different bishops of Rochester. But an inscription on a stone "erected by voluntary contribution" on the outside of the church, more strongly arrested our attention than anything else in or about the edifice. It is to the memory of Elizabeth Monk, the wife of a blacksmith, who was herself childless; but it appears that "an infant, to whom and to whose father and mother she had been nurse (such is the uncertainty of temporal prospects), became dependent upon strangers for the necessities of life: to him she afforded the protection of a mother. Her parental charity was returned with filial affection, and she was supported in the feebleness of age by him whom she had cherished in the helplessness of infancy." The inscription is from the pen of Dr. Hawkesworth.

The entrance into the churchyard lies beneath one of those curious canopies anciently called *Lich-gates*, from the Saxon *lich*, a corpse. Although the name appears to be here lost, we were gratified to find that the purpose of the porch is still remembered. An old man sitting on one of the graves said that they used to bring all the corpses through it, and set them down awhile under its cover. This gate, however, has been restored or rebuilt at no very distant period; and having heard that an older one existed in the neighbouring village of Beckenham, we walked over to see it. Our readers have here a representation of the *Lich-gate* of Beckenham. Beckenham,

we may here observe, is one of the pleasantest villages in this very de-



lightful part of the county; and the number of mansions in the neighbourhood are a proof of its claims to this distinction.

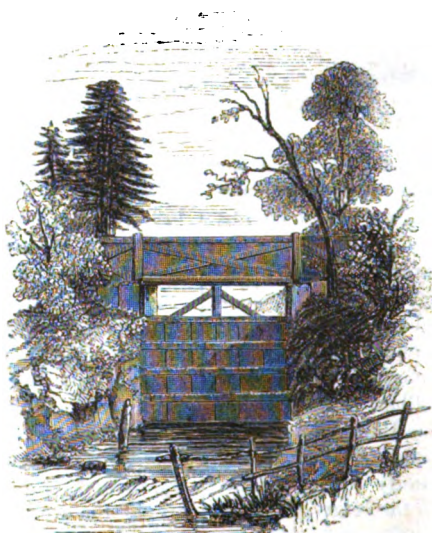
Returning towards the southern extremity of Bromley, we find a lane which leads us directly down to the Ravensbourne; and here, on the left, are the remains of an old moated manor-house called Simpson's Place. The site belonged to John de Banquel in 1302; from his descendants it passed into the possession of a family named Clark. William Clark, in the reign of Henry V., obtained a licence from that monarch, to erect "a strong little pile of lime and stone," with an embattled wall and deep encircling moat. It was purchased in the following reign by John Simpson, who much improved the mansion, and gave his name to it. The moat (with water) yet remains on two sides; a part of the buttress at the south-east corner is also standing. Between the interstices of the ancient walls, trees have struck root in various

parts, and grown to a considerable size, so that the ruin has a very picturesque appearance. Leaving Simpson's Place and following the course of the river, we soon reach the Watergate, a cut of which is given in the next page.

Beyond Bromley, the Ravensbourne proceeds through some broad meadows towards a thick plantation; where its banks are fringed by alders and willows, through which one can with but difficulty make way, and where the occasional *whirr* of the partridge as it starts suddenly from the ground beside us, or of the pheasant mounting heavily upwards, speaks of the solitude that generally reigns over the place. As the river enters the park of Holwood-Hill-Place, it widens and becomes very interesting. Here there is a waterfall, not of the Ravensbourne, but of the ornamental waters of the park in it, filling the air with its delightful sound. Along the banks are a great variety and profusion of flowers, the beds of primroses in particular are of the freshest hue, largest size, and most delicate perfume we ever met with. In different parts of its course, the tall and luxuriant foliage which has sprung up from the roots of the old trees, laid bare at some time almost to the surface of the ground, meet from bank to bank over the river; their mingling and arching branches reflected in all their picturesque intricacies of form in the translucent waters between. Rustic seats placed here and there so as to com-

mand the most delightful views of the Ravensbourne and of the park, intimate that the beauty of the place is not unappreciated. The beds of plants floating in the river are very rich and luxuriant, presenting frequently interesting peculiarities of form, and almost always a vivid freshness of colour.

The extremely sinuous course of the Ravensbourne adds greatly to its picturesque character. It is scarcely possible to find a dozen yards of it straight. This "river" does indeed wind "at its own sweet will," and a most vagrant will it is.



[Water-Gate, Bromley.]

Bromley-Hill Place, the beautiful seat of Colonel Long, stands upon the summit of an eminence which slopes for a considerable distance regularly down to the Ravensbourne. On leaving the park, the river soon swells out into a fine sheet of water by the roadside at South End, having in its centre a little summer-house almost hidden in foliage. From this place on its

way towards Lewisham, it turns various mills. At Catsford Bridge, near Rushy Green, it receives into its channel the small river Chaffinch, and after crossing Brockley Lane, the waters from the Lady-Well also, which is supposed to be the great spring mentioned by Kilburn as newly breaking out of the earth in 1472. In its properties it is said to resemble the

Cheltenham waters. Queen Elizabeth was very partial to this spot and neighbourhood; on a hill near the well there was formerly an oak under which the "fair vestal throned by the

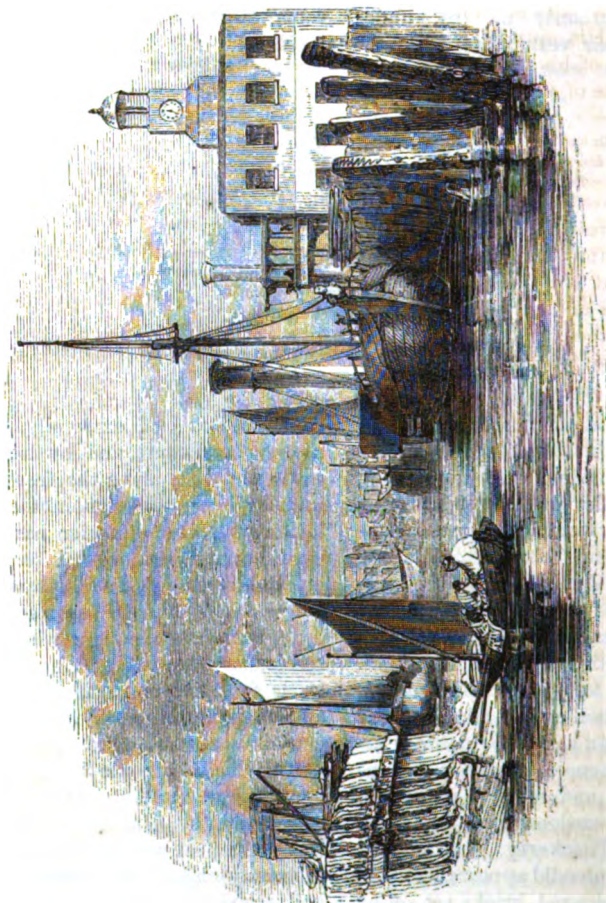
West" dined on one of her "Maying" visits to Lewisham. When the tree decayed, another was planted in its room, to preserve the memory of the incident.



[The Lady-Well]

The principal stream of the **Ravensbourne** flows on to the left of **Lewisham** towards the bridge, and thence along a pleasant valley to **Deptford**. But a branch of the river goes through **Lewisham**. We find this branch issuing from a covered channel near the commencement of the town, and thence continuing its rapid course through almost the entire length of **Lewisham**. This, and the lofty trees which on one side or the other extend all along the road, give it an agreeable country aspect. Almshouses appear to be numerous here; and some of more than ordinary pretensions have just been built by **J. Thackeray, Esq.** They have quite a splendid appearance, with their light-coloured bricks set off by red round the windows, their large Saxon doorway in the centre, their

gable roofs at each extremity, and the nicely-paved court, and low handsome wall extending along the front. The interior does not disappoint the expectation which the exterior has raised: each house has a capital parlour, a bed-room with double windows above, and a little kitchen opening into a court behind. The poor widows who reside here are allowed, by the generous founder, four shillings a week, and a ton of coals yearly. The church contains several fine monuments, among which are one by **Banks** and another by **Flaxman**. This last has an inscription by **Hayley**. Here **Dermody** the poet was buried, at the age of twenty-eight. His depraved habits had previously reduced him to the most deplorable distress; and it was under such circumstances that he was



[Deptford Creek.]

discovered at Percy Slough, near Sydenham, by some friends who used every exertion for his recovery. He died, however, almost immediately afterwards. His epitaph is a quotation from one of his own works, entitled the 'Fate of Genius: ' and commences thus:—

" No titled birth had he to boast,
Son of the desert, Fortune's child.
Yet not by frowning Fortune cross'd,
The Muses on his cradle smiled."

In its progress from Lewisham to the Thames, the Ravensbourne supplies the great Kent waterworks, as well as various mills. Before we follow it any farther, let us rest one moment upon the bridge of Lewisham, and enjoy the picturesque scene before us. The Ravensbourne, as it comes through the arches, extends itself on either side along the line of the bridge, to a considerable breadth, and the front curves round a bank, half orchard, half garden, apparently on its top, some of its lofty trees overshadowing the river. The sunlight is glancing among the leaves, and dancing brightly on the waters, where a graceful swan is arching its stately neck, and which, like Wordsworth's

" Swan on fair St. Mary's lake,
Floats double, swan and shadow."

Lewisham consists of a long street of good houses extending about two miles on the Tunbridge road; and in

the neighbourhood are many agreeable villas. The church was erected in 1774 on the site of a former church, and after having been repaired it was partly destroyed by fire in 1830. There is a grammar-school and an English school in the village, both endowed. Sydenham is a chapelry in the parish of Lewisham. At the upper end of the village is one of the stations on the Croydon Railway: the views from the neighbourhood of Sydenham are very extensive and of great beauty.

As soon as the Ravensbourne reaches Deptford (so called from the *deep ford* by which the river was there crossed), it loses its picturesque character, and flows, through a muddy and broad channel (when the tide is low), into Deptford Creek. Just before it reaches this place it is spanned by a noble bridge of three arches. Deptford Creek formed the harbour of the Danish fleets when they invaded Kent, some nine or ten centuries ago, and they lay here for a considerable time. What a contrast between their strange-looking ships, the naked shore, and the fierce half-barbarian soldiers wandering about, of that time, to the vessels, the buildings, which almost conceal the sight of the noble river beyond, and the general appearances of peaceful industry which now meet the eye in the self-same place!

CHAPTER V.

GREENWICH.

THE walk to Greenwich is not the most attractive of the walks in the environs of London. It is almost a continued street from each of the bridges; and though the road is wide, and the houses occasionally pretty, the holiday-maker may become impatient for the green fields, and weary of the bustle from which he appears unable to escape. The distance from London Bridge to Greenwich is about five miles by the public carriage-way: the line of the railway is three miles and three quarters; and there is a path along one side of the railway viaduct, which is open to pedestrians on payment of a small toll. The viaduct is reserved exclusively for the railway traffic; and the visitor who proceeds to Greenwich by the railway enjoys the excitement of that expeditious mode of travelling at an elevation of twenty-two feet, thus commanding views of the river on one hand, and of the country on the other, and at the same time avoiding the annoyance of summer dust. The railway brings Greenwich with its fine park and noble hospital—one of the oldest and most favoured resorts of the citizens of

London—within a quarter of an hour's distance of the metropolis. But the best mode of visiting Greenwich, for a stranger, is by water. Since the steam-boats have become so numerous as to render the navigation of what is termed the "Pool" dangerous, we cannot recommend either a single person or a party to engage a boat at London Bridge, although that was once the favourite plan; but a trip by the steam-boats which start from the neighbourhood of the bridge every quarter of an hour, is nearly as interesting and is unattended by danger. The fare is 8d., the same as by the railway.

The town of Greenwich is partially paved, lighted with gas, and supplied with water from the Kent water-works at Deptford; but the streets are for the most part narrow, and the houses mean and irregular.

Between Greenwich and London, about a mile to the west of Greenwich, is the royal dockyard of Deptford, established by Henry VIII. in the fourth year of his reign, which comprises a space of about 31 acres, wherein the ships of the royal navy were formerly

built and repaired. It was in Deptford dock-yard that Peter the Great acquired a practical knowledge of ship-building. The workhouse at Deptford occupies the site of Sayes Court, the residence of Evelyn, whose 'Diary' is so well known. The town communicates with the metropolis by the Greenwich Railway. The population of Greenwich and Deptford in 1831 was 45,929. Both towns are within the diocese of Rochester. The living of St. Mary's, Greenwich, is a vicarage worth 1013*l.* per annum, in the patronage of the crown; and that of St. Nicholas, Deptford, is in the gift of the bishop of the diocese, with an average net income of 557*l.* At Greenwich there are schools for the children of naval non-commissioned officers and sailors, at which about 800 boys and 200 girls are boarded, clothed, fed, and instructed. By the provisions of 2 Will. IV., c. 45, Greenwich was erected into a parliamentary borough, which sends two members to parliament: the limits of the borough include the parishes of Deptford, Woolwich, and a part of Charlton, and contained in 1831 a population of 65,917.

A popular writer recommends foreigners who visit London to make their approach to it by the Thames, if they would obtain an idea of the spirit and genius to which we owe our greatness: "It is by the Thames that the stranger should enter London—the broad breast of this great river, black with the huge masses that float upon its crowded

waters—the tall fabrics, gaunt and drear, that line its melancholy shores—the thick gloom through which you dimly catch the shadowy outline of these gigantic forms—the marvellous quiet with which you glide by the dark phantoms of her power into the mart of nations—the sadness, the silence, the vastness, the obscurity of all things around—prepare you for a grave and solemn magnificence.* * * Behold St. Katherine's Docks, and Walker's Soap Manufactory, and 'Hardy's Shades'! Lo! there is the strength, the industry, and the pleasure—the pleasure of the enterprising, the money-making, the dark-spirited people of England. 'Hardy's Shades!'—singular application for the spot dedicated to festivity."* The Thames indeed, covered with the vessels of all nations, may fitly prepare the mind for visiting the palace of those veterans who have sailed under the British flag during many a year of tempest and of battle. Now we pass alongside the hulk of some immense ship, destined to be broken up, but not without leaving stirring recollections of her former pride; and we think involuntarily of those fine lines of Campbell, which stir the heart "as with a trumpet:—

"Britannia needs no bulwark,
No towers along the steep;
Her march is o'er the mountain waves,
Her home is on the deep."

Again, some steam-vessel from Boulogne, or Hamburg, or the Rhine,

* France, by H. L. Bulwer.

will sweep by, heaving the wave all around in its impetuous course ;—and we may reflect how much nobler are the triumphs of peace than those of war, and that the unbounded commerce of England is a better thing for herself and the world than even her proudest victories. In the mean time, the domes and colonnades of Greenwich will rise from the shore, and impress the mind with a magnificence of which the architecture of England presents few examples. An Englishman will feel an honest pride when he reflects that few of the great ones of the earth possess palaces to be compared with the splendour of this pile,

which the gratitude of our nation has assigned as the retreat of its wounded and worn-out sailors.

Greenwich was a favoured place of Queen Elizabeth. It was here that this queen might daily behold the real strength of her island empire ; and here, as her navy sailed beneath her palace-walls, she might bestow upon her fleets that encouragement which, under the blessing of God, enabled her to effect the destruction of that "*Invincible Armada*," vainly destined, by the ambition of a haughty king, to make England

"Lie at the proud foot of a conqueror."



[View of the Old Palace, Greenwich.]

The chief object of interest at Greenwich is the hospital. It occupies the site of the old royal palace called

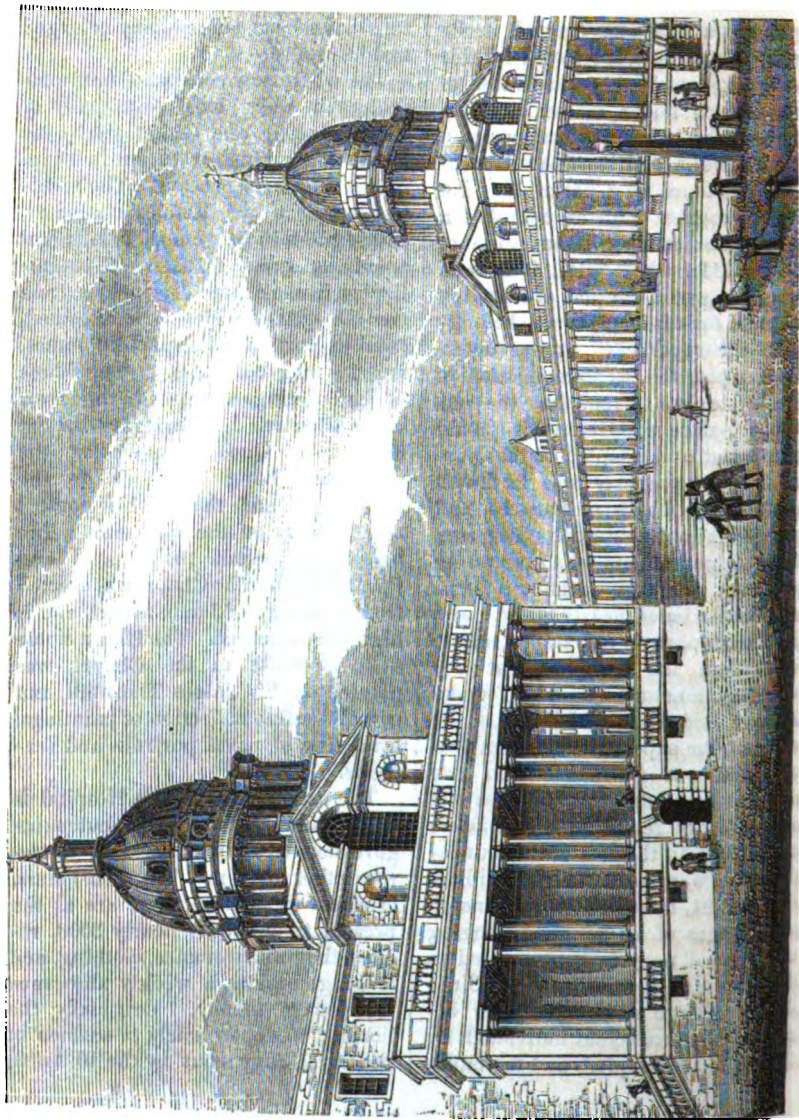
'Greenwich House,' which, being in a dilapidated state at the period of the Restoration, was ordered to be taken

down and a new one erected in its place. The architect selected for this new work was Webb, son-in-law of Inigo Jones, under whose superintendence the present north-western wing was built, and became the occasional residence of Charles II. No further progress towards completion was however made till the reign of William III., whose wife, it is said, having suggested the plan of founding an asylum for disabled seamen belonging to the royal navy, it was determined, upon the recommendation of Sir Christopher Wren, that the unfinished palace of Greenwich should be enlarged and adapted to that purpose. The property was forthwith vested in the hands of trustees, and commissioners appointed. The sum of 2000*l.* per annum was granted by the king; the commissioners themselves contributed nearly 8000*l.*; and Sir Christopher Wren undertook to superintend the work without any pecuniary emolument. The foundation was laid June 3, 1696, and the whole of the superstructure then contemplated was finished within two years, though the hospital was not opened for the reception of pensioners until 1705. In the year of the foundation an act was passed, 7 and 8 William III., cap. 21, by which 6*d.* per month of the wages of all seamen belonging to the royal navy is appropriated to the benefit of the institution. Since that time large sums have been bequeathed by benevolent individuals for the use of the hospital, and the build-

ings have been successively enlarged and improved.

The whole now consists of four quadrangular piles, built principally of Portland stone, and designated by the names of the kings or queens in whose reigns they were erected. The architecture is of the Roman character, rather plain in its general details, but acquiring great features of magnificence from its large dimensions, from the material of which it is executed, from its porticoes, its splendid domes, and its long colonnades. The whole of the buildings are open to the river. King Charles's buildings are on the north-west, Queen Anne's on the north-east, King William's on the south-west, and that of his consort Queen Mary on the south-east. The two latter include the Chapel and Painted Hall. The Chapel was erected from a design of James Stuart, and is highly ornamented. The Hall, a noble room opposite to the Chapel, was painted by Sir James Thornhill, and contains a fine collection of paintings, consisting of naval portraits and sea-fights.

The management of the Hospital is in the hands of a governor, lieutenant-governor, two chaplains, and numerous other officers. The pensioners, of whom we believe there are at the present time (1841) nearly 3000, receive their maintenance, clothing, and lodging, besides a weekly allowance for pocket money. Originally the hospital was open solely to seamen of the royal navy: but by the 10 Anne,



[Royal Hospital, Greenwich.]

cap. 27, it is enacted that the seamen of the merchant service shall contribute equally with those of the royal navy; and that such of the former as may be wounded in the defence of property belonging to her majesty's subjects, or otherwise disabled while capturing vessels from an enemy, shall also be admitted to the benefits of the institution. The money received from visitors and from other sources is appropriated to the support of a school, wherein upwards of 4000 boys have been educated from the foundation of the establishment to the present time.

On a fine day the old pensioners may be seen standing about in groups, or taking a solitary walk in the courts of the hospital, or intent upon some book of devotion, or of inspiring adventures. In the beautiful adjoining park they appear to find much delight in rambling; and many of them establish themselves on some green knoll, provided with a telescope, the wonders of which they exhibit to strangers, and point out, with all the talkativeness of age, the remarkable objects which may be seen on every side. The appearance of these veterans,—some without a leg or arm, others hobbling from the infirmities of wounds or of years, and all clothed in old-fashioned blue coats and breeches, with cocked hats,—would oddly contrast with the splendour of the building which they inhabit, did not the recollection that these men were among the noblest defenders of their country, give a dignity to the

objects which everywhere present themselves, and make the crutch of the veteran not a discordant association with the grandeur of the fabric in which he finds his final port, after the storms of a life of enterprise and danger.

The habitations of the pensioners are divided into wards, each bearing a name, which has been, or might be, appropriated to a ship. These wards (which may be visited) consist of large and airy rooms, on either side of which there are little cabins, in which each man has his bed. Every cabin has some convenience or ornament, the exclusive possession of its tenant; and these little appendages lead one to speculate upon the character of the man to whom they belong. In one may be seen a ballad and a ludicrous print; in another a Christmas carol and a Bible. In large communities, and particularly in a collegiate life, men must greatly subdue their personal habits and feelings to the character of their society; but the individuality of the human mind will still predominate, and will display itself in a thousand little particulars.

The pensioners mess in common. They assemble for their Sabbath devotions in the chapel of the hospital, a modern building, perhaps the most splendid and most tasteful in its decorations of any place of worship in the kingdom. It has not, however, the simplicity and soberness of a temple of the Most High; and the elaborate nature of its ornaments appears par-

ticularly unsuited to the character of its congregation.

It is said, by those who intimately know the habits of the old pensioners, that they are not generally happy. They are provided with every comfort; they are treated with every kindness; they have no laborious duties imposed upon them; but they have nothing to hope or to fear—they want employment—they are alone in a crowd—they have no wife or child to partake their pleasures or soothe their pains—they are friendless amongst multitudes—the heart is desolate in the midst of worldly comfort. These circumstances arise from an essential property of our nature, and no care to make these poor men happy would overcome the undeviating laws of human feeling. Happiness does not wholly depend upon outward circumstances; but if the Greenwich pensioners could be brought impartially to exhibit the degrees of happiness which prevail amongst them, we should find that he was most happy who was laying by the greater portion of his little pittance for a heart that he loved, and was building up his own happiness by a preparation for eternity; while he was most miserable who was most exempt, in the common acceptance, from care, and who acquired as much passing gratification as his situation could reach.

The 'Painted Hall' is divided into three rooms, the whole of which are before the eye of the spectator as he enters the vestibule. The vestibule is

surmounted by one of the two domes which adorn Greenwich Hospital—the great height of the lantern, and the light thrown on the apartment below, give an air of grandeur to the room. A flight of a few steps leads to the principal room or hall, a noble oblong apartment, the roof of which is painted, and the walls are hung with the pictures constituting the NAVAL GALLERY. The third room is called the Upper Hall—it has no pictures, but the walls are painted, and it contains various objects of curiosity, models of ships of war, the coat worn by Nelson at the battle of the Nile, &c. The view of the three rooms from the entrance of the vestibule is very fine.

"The Painted Hall," says the Introduction to the Catalogue of the Gallery, (which is sold to visitors,) "was originally employed as the Refectory for the whole establishment: the upper chamber being appropriated to the table of the officers—the lower to the pensioners. But when the growing revenue of the institution gradually led to an increase of the number of its inmates, the space proved inadequate to their accommodation; the table of the officers was discontinued, and other dining-halls for the men were provided on the basement story. This noble apartment had been thus left unoccupied nearly a century, when, in the year 1794, Lieutenant-Governor Lockyer suggested that it should be appropriated to the service of a National Gallery of Marine Paintings, to

commemorate the eminent services of the Royal Navy of England. The judicious design was not then realized; but in 1823 it was revived, with happier success, by his son, who submitted to the commissioners and governor a proposition on the subject, which, after due consideration, was finally adopted. The Painted Hall was accordingly prepared for the reception of works of art; and, Mr. Lockyer having undertaken the task of procuring an extensive series of pictures, by gratuitous contributions, the present valuable collection of paintings in a few years has amply rewarded his hereditary zeal for the completion of this interesting object." George IV. placed in the Hall the series of portraits of the celebrated admirals of the reigns of King Charles II. and King William III. which were transferred from Windsor Castle and Hampton Court. William IV. in 1835 added five valuable pictures to the collection; and it has been increased by the liberality of private individuals. This splendid national gallery is freely open to the visitors of Greenwich Hospital. No door-keepers stand in the entrance holding out their hands for fees. One of the pensioners, indeed, points to a little box on a table in the vestibule, and tells you that you may, if you please, add your mite to a fund which is appropriated to the support of the orphans of those who have helped to sustain the naval glory of Old England.

On either side of the vestibule are

four statues, casts from the statues in St. Paul's Cathedral, of Nelson and Duncan, St Vincent and Howe. Between the statues of Nelson and Duncan, on the right of the entrance, is hung Turner's large picture of the battle of Trafalgar; beneath it four portraits of naval commanders, Lord Dartmouth, Lord Mulgrave, Sir John Warren, and Captain Franklyn; and beneath these, near the ground, are the relief of Gibraltar, and the defeat of the French fleet under the command of the Comte de Grasse, both actions achieved by the gallant Rodney. On the opposite side, between the statues of St. Vincent and Howe, is hung a large picture painted by Louthembourg, of Howe's victory over the French fleet off Ushant, on the 1st of June, 1794; and beneath it portraits of naval commanders, and pictures, arranged similarly to those on the right side. High above, in the cupola, are hung the flags taken in the battles won by Howe, St. Vincent, Duncan, and Nelson.

But who is this grave-looking burgher on our right hand as we enter the vestibule? "Martin Harpertsz Tromp, Knt., lieutenant-admiral of Holland and West Freisland, slain in fight with the English fleet off the Texel." The Van Tromp who swept *our* Channel with a broom at his mast-head, and defied old Blake, one of the bravest sailors that ever trod an English deck! This is honourable to us; there should be more such portraits of the brave men whose defeats make up the fame of our naval commanders.

Altogether, the vestibule is a noble introduction to the hall. Besides the statues, it contains twenty-eight pictures, large and small, arranged with considerable taste. On either side of the flight of steps leading to the hall are a view of the old palace of Greenwich, 1690, (before its endowment as an hospital,) and a view of Windsor Castle, as it appeared in the same year—both pictures painted by Vorsterman. There is also a portrait, by Sir James Thornhill, of "John Worley, aged 97, one of the first pensioners admitted into the Hospital."

Ascending the steps into the Hall, let us first direct our attention to the ceiling. It was painted by Sir James Thornhill in 1703, and subsequent years. In the central compartment appear King William and Queen Mary, surrounded by emblematical personages, intended to typify national prosperity; and the compartments are crowded with figures representing the seasons, the elements, the zodiac, with portraits of Copernicus, Newton, &c., and emblems of science and naval trophies.

The pictures in this spacious apartment are arranged somewhat chronologically; beginning at the left-hand corner with the Armada and the naval heroes of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and continued from the left to the right-hand side of the room, ending on the right-hand side of the entrance with the bombardment of Algiers by Lord Exmouth.

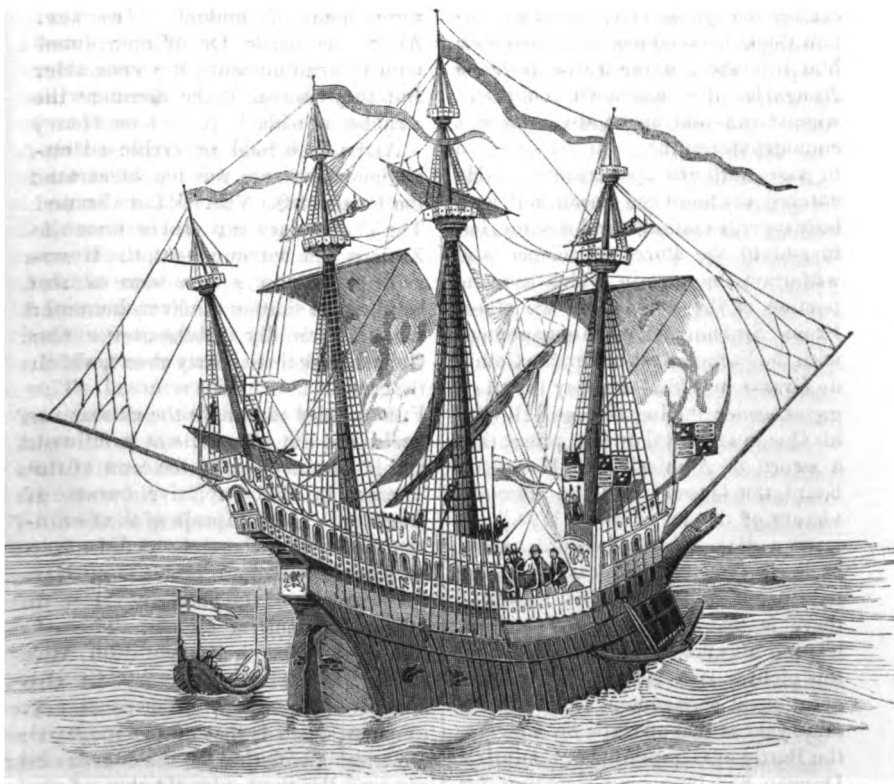
First, on the left-hand corner we

have Howard of Effingham, who dared to disobey the orders of an imperious mistress, and prepared to meet the Armada. But he is dressed now, not for the quarter-deck, but the court, and looks grand in his robes, ruff, and staff. Below him are a group of three as singular characters as ever looked out from one canvass—Hawkins, Drake, and Cavendish. The next picture is rather out of its chronological arrangement—it comes after instead of before "The defeat of the Spanish Armada." It is "King Henry VIII. in H.M.S. Henri Grace-à-Dieu, sailing to Calais for the celebrated conference with Francis I. of France, 1520." Clumsy old Harry Grace-à-Dieu was a father of ships. It was built in 1515, when we were almost guiltless of having a navy; launched at Erith on the Thames,—the first double-decker that was ever built in England.

The chief pictures on this side of the room are, the battle of Southwold Bay between the English and Dutch in 1672; Captain T. Harman, in H.M.S. Tyger, defending a fleet of English colliers against an attack of eight Dutch privateers in the same year; the same Captain in the same vessel carrying off a Dutch frigate in triumph in 1674; the battle off Barfleur in 1692, between the English and French; the destruction of the French fleet in the same year in the port of La Hogue, by Admiral Sir George Rooke; the victory of Sir George Byng over the Spanish fleet in

1718; Sir Edward Hawke's victory over the French fleet in Quiberon Bay in 1759; Admiral Barrington's defence of St. Lucia in 1778; and the Experiment, of twenty guns, boarding *Le Télémaque*, a French privateer, off Alicante in 1757. The portraits are numerous—the most noted characters

represented are brave, blunt Blake; Sir George Rooke, who shattered the French naval power, by the destruction of the fleet in Cape La Hogue; Byng, the father of the ill-used admiral; unfortunate Sir Cloudesley Shovel; Lord Hawke; and sturdy Benbow, who almost literally "fought upon his



[The *Henri Grace à Dieu*. From a Picture in Greenwich Hospital.]

stumps," for when, abandoned by his cowardly or treacherous officers, and fighting a fleet with his single ship, his leg was shattered by a ball, he commanded himself to be carried up to the deck, that he might still see the battle.

Crossing to the other side of the room, the first remarkable picture that catches the eye is "The Death of Captain Cook." Who has not sailed with him in search of the *Terra Australis Incognita*, the unknown continent which it was affirmed must exist, as a counterpoise to the great mass of land in the northern hemisphere? He entered the Southern Ocean, not as a buccaneer, to plunder and destroy, but to add to the stores of science and withdraw the curtain which hid one portion of the world from the other. From "Sir Samuel Hood's engagement with the French fleet under the Comte de Grasse in 1782," we may turn to a gayer scene: "King George III. with his Queen and royal family, presenting a sword to Admiral Earl Howe, on board the Queen Charlotte, after the victory of the 1st of June, 1794." It was "a diamond-hilted sword, valued at three thousand guineas." In the painting of the "Battle of St. Vincent," there is that "soul of fire," Nelson, leaping into the San Josef! Close by this picture is a memorial of another great naval engagement fought in the same year as that off Cape St. Vincent, the Battle of Camperdown. Admiral Duncan had been long watching for the Dutch fleet in the Texel. At last

it ventured out; the news flew to the English admiral; he "dashed at them," got between them and their coast, and forced an engagement. The picture is, "Admiral de Winter delivering his sword to the British Commander-in-chief." The battle of Camperdown was fought with great bravery on both sides; the two commanding admirals were men of undoubted courage. After the battle De Winter dined with Duncan on board the Venerable, and they concluded the evening with a rubber at whist!

And now behold as terrific an engagement as ever was fought at sea; the Battle of the Nile. What a scene! The Theseus, as she passed between the Zealous and her opponent, the Guerrier, poured in a broadside as she brushed the sides of the French vessel: for this "friendly act" the crew of the Goliath gave three hearty cheers, which the crew of the Theseus returned. The French tried to imitate the animating peals, but the attempt was a failure, and it was mocked by the crew of the Theseus in loud explosive bursts of laughter. "The captain of the Guerrier owned that those cheers did more to damp the ardour of his men than the broadside of the Theseus." Let us take a last look of Nelson. The adjoining picture represents him expiring "in the hour of victory" in the cockpit of his vessel. "The most triumphant death is that of the martyr: the most awful that of the martyred patriot: the most splendid that of the hero in the hour of victory."

The remaining great picture is "The Bombardment of Algiers by Viscount Exmouth in 1816." In the corner is a small accompaniment to this picture, which, though out of chronological order, makes a very fitting contrast—"Captain Sir John Kempthorne, in the *Mary Rose* frigate, overcomes seven Algerine corsairs, 1699."

We have not, of course, enumerated all the pictures in this "Naval Gallery;" a large number of portraits are hung along the right side of the Hall, of which we can only mention those of Anson, Cook, St. Vincent, Nelson, and Exmouth. The Naval Gallery is a proud monument of the glory of England. For though war is a bitter curse, and it is the peculiar work of civilization to render it less frequent in its occurrence, and of shorter duration when it does occur, no man can look around upon these trophies without feeling a portion of that enthusiasm which made a shout to ring through the fleet at Trafalgar, when the signal was made, that "England expects every man to do his duty." While a large portion of the world remains uncivilized—while we are liable to be exposed to encroaching ambition or the influence of angry passions—while we have a vast commerce to maintain and defend, the naval power of England can never be suffered to decay. It decayed after the reign of Elizabeth, but revived in the hands of Blake—it decayed in the reign of Charles II., when the Dutch burned Sheerness, menaced Chatham,

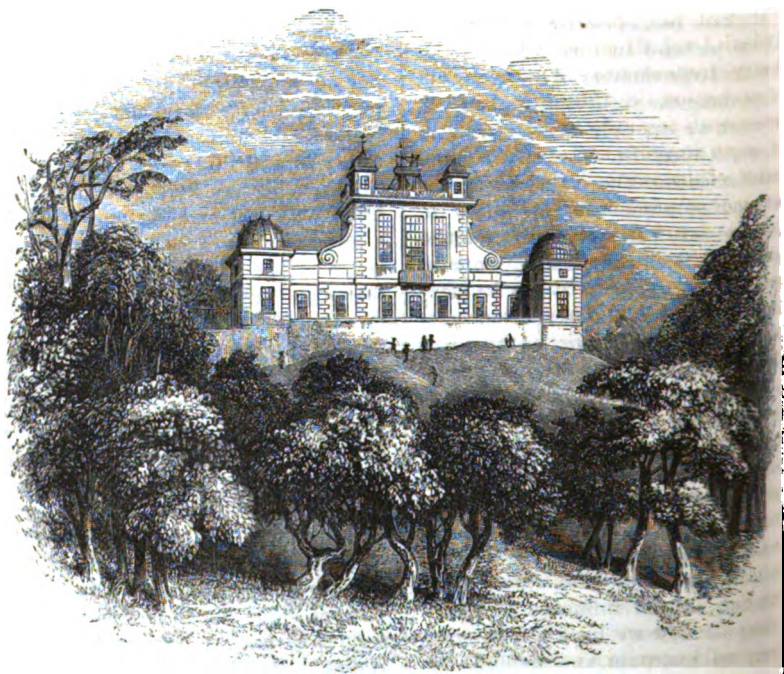
and alarmed the citizens of London, but revived when Rooke scattered the French navy off Cape La Hogue—it fluctuated in the early part of the eighteenth century, but its "meteor flag" burned with terrific brightness under Howe, Jarvis, Duncan, and Nelson.

Greenwich Observatory stands on the most elevated spot in Greenwich Park, and consists of two buildings,—one a low oblong edifice, which is properly the Observatory, and the other a house for the Astronomer Royal. The upper part of the latter, however, besides serving as a library-room, is also filled with instruments; and there is a camera-obscura on the top of the house. The library contains many scarce and valuable works, principally on scientific subjects. The Observatory is divided into four apartments, fitted up with transit circles, quadrants, clocks, sectors, and other astronomical instruments, among which are some of the finest productions of Troughton, Graham, Hardy, Earnshaw, Dollond, and Herschel. Among them is a transit instrument, that is, an instrument for observing the passage of the different heavenly bodies over the meridian, of eight feet in length, which is famous as having been that used by Halley, Bradley, and Maskelyne. Bradley's zenith sector is also in one of the rooms, with which he made the observations at Kew, from which he deduced his discoveries of the aberration of light and the nutation of the earth's axis. Two small buildings,

with hemispherical sliding domes, stand to the north of the Observatory, which are fitted up chiefly for the observation of comets. Most of the old observatories were provided with a deep well, from the bottom of which the stars might be observed in the day-time; and that of Greenwich had also

formerly an excavation of this kind, descending to the depth of a hundred feet, in the south-east corner of the garden. It is now, however, arched over.

The Observatory occupies the site of an old fortified tower belonging to the crown, said to have been first



[Royal Observatory, Greenwich.]

erected in the early part of the fifteenth century, by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, the brother of Henry V., one of the earliest patrons of learning in

this country. It was either repaired or rebuilt by Henry VIII. in 1531, and continued long afterwards to be considered a place of some strength

Paul Hentzner, the German traveller, says that, in the time of Elizabeth, it was known by the name of "Mire-fleur," and was supposed to be the same which is mentioned in the romance of "Amadis de Gaul."

The institution of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich originated, it appears (Baily's 'Account of Rev. John Flamsteed, &c.,' p. 37, and 'Historia Cœlestis,' vol. iii. p. 101), in the following circumstance. The extension of navigation in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries made it a matter of great importance to possess the means of accurately determining the longitude of a ship at sea. It was remarked that this could be effected, provided that the motion of the moon among the stars could be exactly predicted before a ship left England; for then if, at any part of the voyage, the navigators should observe the moon in any situation with regard to the fixed stars, the precise London time could be found from that observed situation. A plan founded on this principle was proposed by a Frenchman, named Le Sieur de St. Pierre, to Charles II. in 1674, who referred it to a commission of official and scientific men, by one of whom (Sir Jonas Moor) the opinion of Flamsteed (already well known as a very learned and enthusiastic astronomer) was taken. Flamsteed however stated that the lunar tables were far too much in error to make this method practicable; and that even the places of the stars in existing catalogues, which must be

the foundation for every theory of the motions of the moon or planets, were grievously faulty. Charles II. was much struck with this defect, and measures were taken without delay under his auspices for adopting the cultivation of astronomy as a national object. The Observatory at Greenwich was immediately built, and Flamsteed was appointed Astronomical Observer (the title still retained in official documents) by warrant under the royal sign-manual, with a salary of 100*l.* per annum. The "finding out the so much desired longitudes of places, for the perfecting the art of navigation," was mentioned in this warrant, and also in the warrant for the building, as the reason for instituting the office; and the inscription still existing above the original door of the Observatory declares that it was built for the benefit of astronomy and navigation. No instruments however were supplied by the state: those used by Flamsteed were his own property, and partly constructed by himself. Flamsteed's residence at the Observatory commenced in July, 1676; but his best instruments were not in use till 1689. He died in 1719.

Flamsteed was succeeded as Astronomer Royal by the great Halley, who occupied the situation twenty-three years, having died in 1742, at the age of eighty-five. His successor was another most distinguished astronomer, Bradley, the discoverer of the aberration of light, or that difference between the apparent and the true place

of any of the fixed stars which is occasioned by the motion of the earth and the motion of light from the star to the observer. After Bradley's death, which took place in 1762, Mr. Bliss held the office for two years, when he died, and gave place to the late eminent Dr. Maskelyne, who enjoyed it for a period not much short of half a century, having survived till 1810. He was succeeded by Mr. Pond. The present Astronomer Royal is Professor Airey. Since 1767, in conformity with an order of his majesty, the observations made by the Astronomer Royal at Greenwich have been annually published under the superintendence of the Royal Society. The admirable instruments with which the Observatory is provided, together with the ability and high character of the successive astronomers, have secured to the Greenwich observations a reputation for accuracy scarcely rivalled by those of any other similar institution.

In 1766 Harrison's plan of an improved watch, or chronometer, was first tried at the Observatory. From that time to the present, there has been little intermission in the trials of chronometers of different constructions. In 1822 chronometer-makers were allowed to send a certain number of chronometers each, in competition for prizes, to be adjudged after a year's trial; and above sixty chronometers have sometimes been on trial at once, requiring to be carefully rated every day. A similar competition was re-

peated every year. This system was abandoned in 1836. The manufacture of chronometers appears to have been greatly improved by these trials. Chronometers having been universally introduced into the Royal Navy, the Royal Observatory is made the *dépôt* for them, and while there they are regularly rated: the management of the repairs is also attached to the business of the Observatory.

It is not to the gazing at planets or nebulae, or to the watching the appearances of the spots in the sun or the mountains in the moon with which the dilettante astronomer is so much charmed; it is not to the measures of the relative positions and distances of double stars, or the registering the present state of the nebulous bodies which appear liable to change—measures and registers of great importance, but which possess a charm sufficient to persuade private observers to undertake the observations, and which do not demand extreme nicety of adjustment of the instruments, nor require much calculation afterwards. But it is to the regular observation of the sun, moon, planets, and stars (selected according to a previously arranged system), when they pass the meridian, at whatever hour of the day or night that may happen, and in no other position; observations which require the most vigilant care in regard to the state of the instruments, and which imply such a mass of calculations afterwards, that the observation itself is in comparison a mere

trifle. From these are deduced the positions of the various objects, with an accuracy that can be obtained in no other way; and they can then be used as bases to which observations by amateur astronomers, with different instruments, can be referred.

In consequence of the continuity, the regularity, and the general excellence of the Greenwich observations of the sun and moon, they have been almost exclusively used in the construction of the theory and tables of the motions of those bodies. Indeed up to the year 1814 there are no observations, even detached ones, at other observatories, which can be put in competition with the corresponding ones at Greenwich. Since that year, some of the observations of the sun made at Königsberg have been used by the German astronomers. But the Greenwich observations of the moon are to the present time the only ones that can be used for the lunar theories, and probably will always be the only ones. The observations of planets, as far as they go, have also been used in preference to those of other observatories: indeed, for the earlier years, there are no others to be found.

The business of the Observatory, it will have been remarked, embraces

only one branch of astronomy, namely, that depending on meridional observations; excluding that part which has been made so important by the labours of Sir W. Herschel and Sir J. Herschel. There seems to be little doubt that this restriction is advantageous. The part retained is the most laborious, and is also that which best admits of being reduced to a system working well under official superintendence. There is another reason (connected with the magnitude of the instruments used by the two Herschels) which perhaps might not occur to the reader, but which may be illustrated by what has happened at the Observatory. A 20-foot reflecting telescope (Ramage's) was mounted at the Observatory, partly at the desire of Mr. Pond; but we have the best authority for saying that the interruption in the business of the Observatory produced by the parties of visitors who were attracted by this instrument was so great that Mr. Pond himself was glad to have it dismantled. The increasing population of London and of the neighbourhood of Greenwich has made it necessary now to place the admission of visitors under very strict rules.

CHAPTER VI.

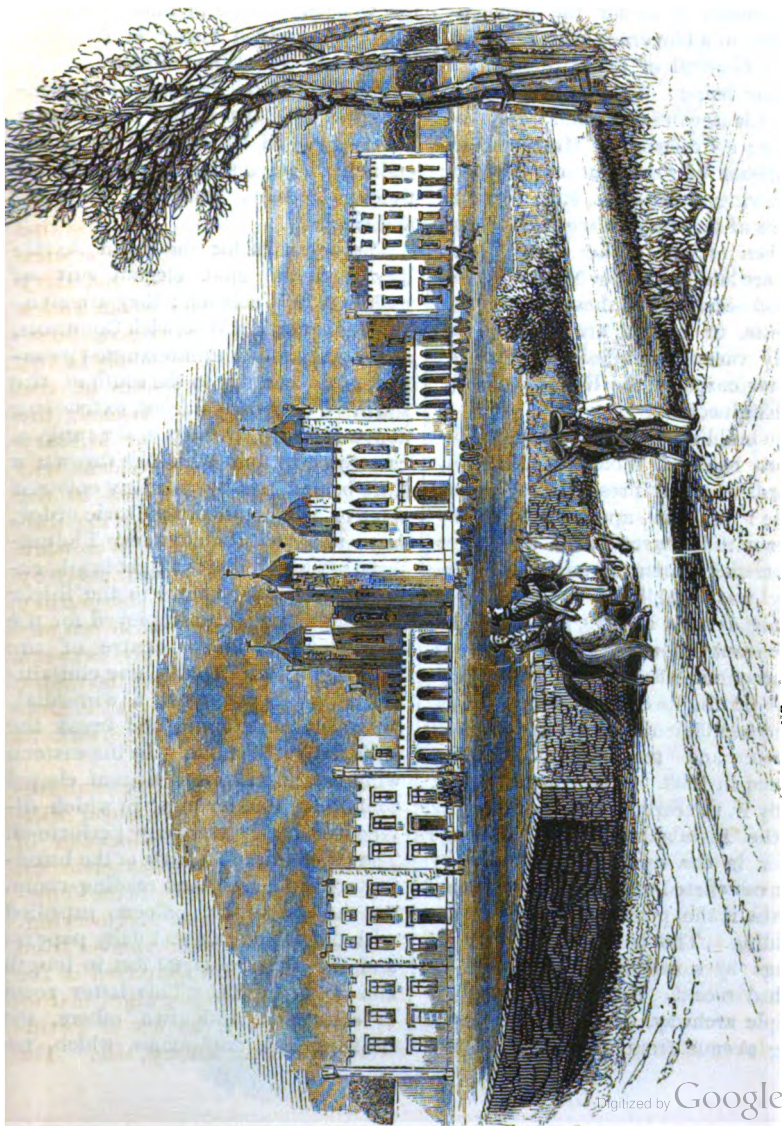
WOOLWICH.

WOOLWICH, from its importance as the grand military and naval dépôt for England, as well as from its proximity to London, has become one of the most frequented and popular resorts of those who in their rambles in the pursuit of amusement wish to be instructed at the same time. In this town may be seen many of the vast preparations necessary to render effective the precautions by which the peace of England is preserved and the encroachments of her enemies checked.

Woolwich is situated about 8 miles from London in a direction east by south, or about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles by water. From the southern portion of the town an extensive and picturesque country is presented to the eye; Shooter's Hill, surmounted by Severndroog Castle, forming a conspicuous object in the distance, while, nearer, the pretty village of Charlton delights the spectator with its rural beauties. The town is bounded on the north by the Thames, whose waters, bearing ships loaded with the produce of all parts of the world, sail proudly by. The general aspect of the town itself is not very inviting, yet in those parts farthest from the river several neat and pretty houses have lately sprung up, which, with

the handsome buildings erected by the government, render the appearance more cheerful than the small and dirty houses nearer the river would lead a visitor to suppose. Strangers, however, occupy themselves chiefly in the inspection of the curiosities of the place, in visiting the Arsenal, the Dockyard, the Rotunda or Military Museum, &c., while the resident will find many delightful scenes in the vicinity to console him for the dullness of the town itself. Woolwich may be reached most expeditiously by the Blackwall Railway. The journey to Blackwall is performed in ten minutes, and steam-boats ply between that place and Woolwich, or the visitor may go on board a steam-boat at London Bridge and proceed direct to Woolwich.

One of the most interesting establishments in Woolwich is the Royal Military Academy for the education of young gentlemen in all that relates to, or is in any way necessary to the knowledge of, Artillery and Engineering. These gentlemen cadets number from 120 to 150; they are instructed in the ancient and modern languages, mathematics, chemistry, the art of fortification, drawing, fencing, &c. The



[Royal Military Academy.]

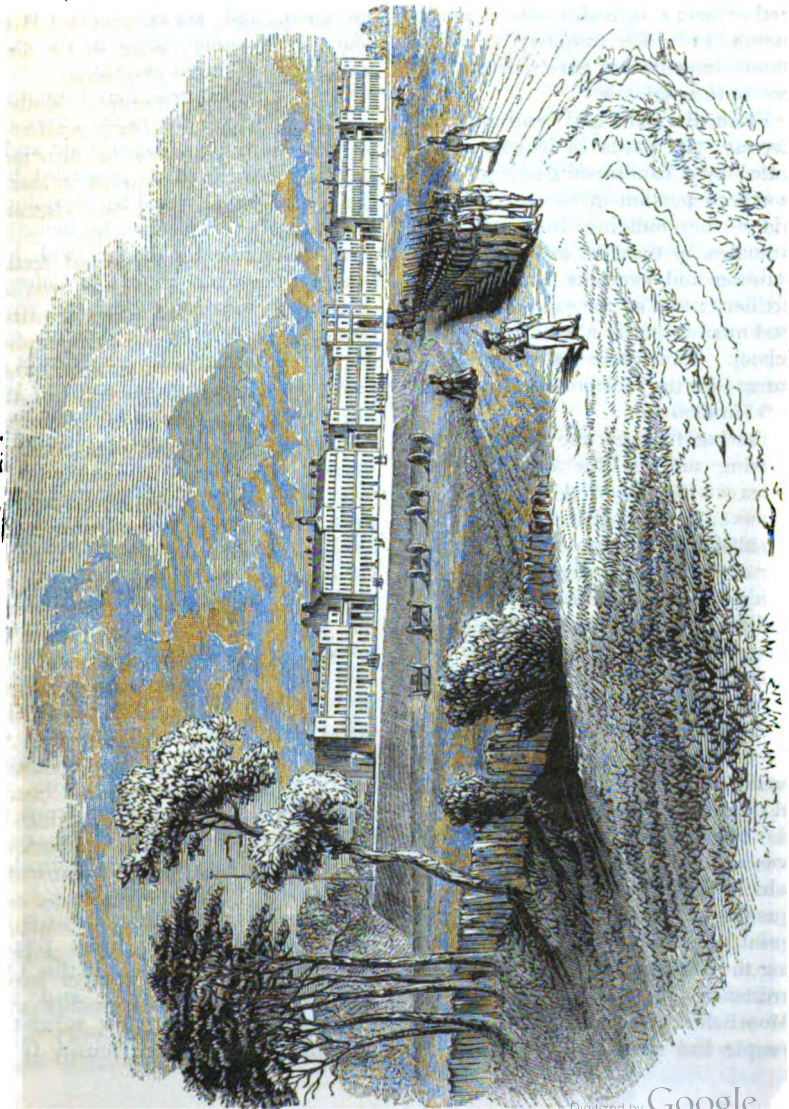
establishment is under the superintendence of a Governor, who is always Master-General of the Ordnance for the time being: the resident officers are a Lieutenant-Governor, and Inspector; a Professor of Mathematics; a Professor of Fortification; Masters of Drawing, Languages, &c. Examinations of the students are held monthly, when reports of the state of progress are laid before the Master-General, and according to these reports the students, or cadets, are selected to supply vacant commissions in the respective corps of the Royal Artillery and Engineers.

The building is situated on the south-eastern edge of Woolwich Common, towards which it presents an elegant façade: and the appearance of the tower with its turrets from a distance is extremely picturesque. This academy was established in the Royal Arsenal as early as 1719, and chartered by warrant of George II. in 1741; but the accommodation at the commencement of the present century being found insufficient, a new situation was chosen, and the present building erected in 1805. It is a spacious pile, partly in the early English and partly in the Elizabethan style. A large tower in the centre, surmounted by four castellated turrets with octagonal domes, is the principal feature of the building. This is connected with the wings by a castellated colonnade or arched recess. The main entrance, a simple archway, is approached by a long avenue from the north, whence

the wooded heights of Shooter's Hill may be perceived rising in the distance to the left of the building.

The Chair of the Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Military Academy has been filled by some of the most eminent mathematicians of modern times; Derham, Simpson, Hutton, and Gregory.

The barracks for the Royal Artillery form the most elegant suit of buildings in Woolwich; they are situated to the north of Woolwich Common, and command an uninterrupted prospect of the country to the south of the town. The principal front, extending above 1200 feet, consists of six ranges, connected by four buildings thrown a little behind, and by as many covered ways or colonnades of the Doric order, surmounted with balustrades. The material of the building is a light brick, relieved by Portland stone in the lower portions: this is also employed for the elegant portal in the centre of the building. Two cupolas, one containing a clock, the other a wind-dial, ornament the summit, and break the uniformity of the line. In the eastern wing is a spacious and elegant chapel containing 1000 sittings, in which divine service is regularly performed. The other principal parts of the building are the library and reading-room, for the use of the officers, supplied with the periodicals and daily papers; and the mess-room, 60 feet in length and 50 in width. This latter room is connected with two others, the drawing and ante-rooms, which, to-



[Royal Horse and Foot Artillery Barracks, Woolwich.]

gether form a splendid suite of apartments, in which frequent balls and entertainments are given by the officers to their friends.

From the principal entrance, an avenue, 220 yards in length, terminated by a handsome gateway at the northern portion of the barracks, divides the building into two quadrangles, by the sides of which are the stabling and barracks for the horse-artillery; and at the extremity of the east quadrangle is a spacious riding-school. The whole extremity is arranged for the accommodation of from 3000 to 4000 men.

Passing through the barracks and bearing towards the north-east, the gates of the Royal Arsenal will be observed but a short distance off. This establishment is composed of a number of buildings, which, if not distinguished for their outward appearance, will, when the visitor becomes acquainted with the interior, be considered more interesting than perhaps any others in Woolwich.

Previous to the time of George I. the foundry for cannon, which now forms one of the principal departments of the Arsenal, and may be said to be the cause of its present importance, was situated in Moorfields, from which place it was removed in consequence of an accident attended with great loss of life, which happened during the casting of some large pieces of ordnance in the manufactory at Moorfields. A large concourse of people had assembled to witness the

operation, and among them was a young Swiss named Schalch, who, examining the different parts of the works with great minuteness, found that the moulds in which the cannon were to be cast were in a damp state, and, knowing that the steam generated by the heated metal would be so violent as to cause an explosion, he immediately communicated the fact, with his fears for the consequences, to Colonel Armstrong, the surveyor-general, who, instantly perceiving the danger, endeavoured to persuade his friends to retire with him from the scene of the impending calamity. In this he partially succeeded, but many, discrediting the fact that the slight dampness observable in the moulds would cause such disastrous effects, remained behind. The prediction of Schalch was verified. In a few minutes after his departure, the liquid metal flowing into the moulds converted the dampness instantaneously into steam, which, unable otherwise to find its escape, burst the moulds asunder, threw the heated metal about in all directions, and destroyed great part of the building. Many persons were killed on the spot, others died soon after from the injuries they had received, and scarcely any escaped without some wound or bruise more or less serious.

A few days after the accident a notice appeared in the public papers requesting Schalch to call at the Ordnance-office in the Tower, and suggesting that the interview might be advantageous. Schalch found it so;

for, his mechanical abilities having been put to the test in an examination he underwent in an interview with Colonel Armstrong, he was requested in the name of the government to seek out some eligible site within twelve miles of the metropolis to which the manufacture of ordnance might be transferred. Having chosen the spot called "the Warren" at Woolwich, a foundry was erected there, and the young Swiss appointed superintendent, an office he continued to hold for sixty years. He died in 1776, at the advanced age of ninety years, and was buried in Woolwich churchyard.

On entering the gateway, the visitor, after obtaining permission to view the works (which is readily granted at the guard-house, where he will be furnished with a ticket admitting him to all the departments), will find the foundry a few steps before him. This building is provided with every necessary for the most extensive ordnance manufacture. It has four air-furnaces, the largest of which will melt 325 cwt. of metal. In the year 1809, when the establishment was kept in great activity, 385 guns were cast here, and in the following year 343. The guns are cast solid, and are afterwards bored and turned in a separate building. For this purpose the gun itself is turned round on its axis while a centre-bit is applied to the mouth and gradually advanced to the opposite end; the operation of turning the exterior being carried on at the same time. Every gun when completed is mi-

nutely examined by magnifying-glasses on the outside, and by mirrors in the interior, in order that any flaw may be detected: if in this examination no defect is found, it is then charged with powder and fired, that it may be fully proved. It sometimes happens that the most accurate scrutiny is insufficient to detect some minute defect, and in that case the only means by which such becomes known is by the destruction of the piece when fired. This operation is performed on the banks of the canal, near the great storehouses, at which place there is a large saw-mill, and a curious circular planing machine, which those visitors who are not acquainted with such instruments on a grand scale would do well to inspect. Near the foundry is the "Pattern Room," a building in which is deposited a pattern or model of every article used in the artillery service. The first article which presents itself on entering the building is a model of the machinery employed in reducing gunpowder to minute particles fit for the several purposes to which it is to be applied. The powder is made up into cakes of about four inches square, which are put into the machine, and are then ground into minute grains, varying in size according to the dimensions of the ordnance for which it is intended, it being found that large-sized grains are better for cannon than the small particles used for musquetry, as, from the large quantity required, the small-grained powder would take a longer time to

ignite in consequence of the exclusion of air from the central portion, than the powder composed of larger pieces, which allow the air to pass between them. Near to this model is a machine intended to measure the strength of the powder by the recoil of the piece which is loaded by it. A certain quantity is put into a small cannon hanging from an arc, from which also an index is suspended. The distance to which the gun is sent in the recoil is marked by the index, which sliding rather tightly in the groove in the arc, remains fixed at the point to which the gun drives it; for after the discharge, although the gun oscillates for some time, the space it traverses gradually becomes less, the most extensive being the recoil consequent on the discharge. Thus the force of the recoil is accurately and permanently registered, and by it the strength of the powder is judged.

In the room to the left of this are specimens of Congreve rockets, from a small one of twelve or fourteen inches in length to the largest used in the service, above six feet long. These formidable weapons have been much used in modern warfare, being employed to carry various destructive instruments. The cases of the Congreve rockets are made of a cylindrical piece of iron, but formed somewhat differently at the head, according to the purposes for which they are to be employed. Those called carcass-rockets are armed with strong conical heads of iron pierced with holes, and containing a sub-

stance as hard and solid as iron itself, which, when once inflamed, is inextinguishable, and scatters its burning particles in every direction. Others carry shells or case-shot, the firing of which is regulated by slow-fire attached to the rocket, and which, when they explode, commit as much devastation as the shells from bombs.

The Congreve rockets are generally fired from a long iron cylinder (exhibited in the same room with the rockets), which is placed nearly horizontally, and the rockets will travel, according to their weight and size, distances of from 2000 to 4000 yards. They were first used in the attack of Boulogne in 1806, and have since been much employed both in field service and sieges, particularly at the bombardment of Copenhagen.

In this department are also exhibited several kinds of grape, canister, bar, chain, and other shot; hand-grenades, a beautiful model of the magazine of a ship, another fine model of a fire-ship, and, in short, almost every article used either in the army or navy for the annoyance or destruction of an enemy.

Besides these there are models of the fireworks exhibited on days of public rejoicing, the most elaborate of which is the model of the Temple of Concord, erected in St. James's Park in 1814, with the paintings, including a very beautiful one by Stothard (the largest he ever painted), which adorned the original structure.

Connected with the Pattern-Room is

the Laboratory, in which the cartridges, rockets, fireworks, and other articles of chemical construction used in the service are prepared.

Leaving this building, and proceeding to the north, the extensive range of storehouses of the royal artillery is approached. In these repositories there are generally kept complete outfittings for 10,000 horses: and frequently there are sufficient articles for 20,000 cavalry.

These articles include saddles (arranged in heaps on the sides of a room nearly 300 feet long), horses' bits (hanging from the ceiling, where they sparkle like the glittering stalactites of a grotto), pistols, swords, horse-shoes, whips, &c. &c. From the upper part of these warehouses the whole area of the arsenal may be seen, together with the immense tiers of cannon in the field immediately below, where there are no less than 24,000 pieces of ordnance, of which nearly 3000 are of gun-metal, the remainder being of iron. These are arranged in pieces of 202 different sizes. In other parts of the arsenal there are nearly 3,000,000 cannon-balls and bomb-shells, painted and arranged in pyramidal groups.

From the Arsenal, a few steps will bring us to the gates of the Royal Dockyard, an establishment to which Woolwich may be said principally to owe its present importance. At an early period the natural capabilities of the place were deemed admirably adapted for the construction of vessels; the river at this part being nearly a

mile across, and deep enough to float vessels of the largest burthen within a very short distance of the shore; and accordingly in the reign of Henry VIII. a royal dockyard was established here, in which the well-known "Harry Grace-à-Dieu" was built in 1515.

It was not, however, until the reign of Elizabeth that the Dockyard of Woolwich became of any importance. The superior build of the vessels constructed at this place raised it to considerable importance, and it was here that most of the ships celebrated in the victories of Drake and Hawkins, and in the voyages of Cavendish and Fro-bisher, were launched.

It was in the reign of Charles I., after the Dockyard had been greatly enlarged and the interior economy much improved, that "The Sovereign of the Seas" was constructed. She was registered for 1637 tons; measured in length 232 feet, in breadth 48 feet, and in height from the keel to the highest point of the stern 76 feet: these were then considered extraordinary dimensions.

The Dockyard increased as the importance of our navy became more apparent to succeeding sovereigns, and at the present time is of considerable extent. It commences at the village of New Charlton on the west, and extends nearly a mile along the banks of the river to the east, at which part it closely approaches the Arsenal. It contains two large dry docks for the repair of vessels, and an extensive basin, 400 feet long, and nearly 300

in breadth, capable of receiving vessels of the largest size. There are also extensive ranges of timber-sheds, storehouses, several mast-houses, a large pond for masts, and others for boats. And as all the iron instruments used in the construction of ships are manufactured at this place, a large building has been erected for the purpose, provided with steam engines of great power. The anchors, many of immense size, which have been cast and finished here, are disposed in long ranges, ready for instant employment.

Each department is under the superintendence of a separate officer, the whole being under the direction of the Board of Admiralty. A commissioner, the master-attendant, the storekeeper, and the principal officers of the other departments, reside on the spot, several houses having been erected for their accommodation.

Let us now proceed to the Repository and Rotunda, of which we have given a view. It is situated on the margin of Woolwich Common, to the south of the town. The ground around the building is much broken, and intersected with two or three pieces of water, which afford the Artillery corps opportunities for the practice of many manoeuvres likely to be brought into operation during war. Embankments and fortifications have also been constructed, mounted with the various pieces of ordnance employed in the defence of besieged places, at which the men are exercised. They are often directed to form pontoons across

the ponds, and practised in the methods adopted for the raising of sunken guns, &c.

The Rotunda was originally erected in Carlton Gardens by George IV. when Prince Regent, for the reception of the allied sovereigns on the occasion of their visit to England in 1814, and was subsequently presented by him to the Garrison at Woolwich, where it was removed to become a depository for models connected with military and naval architecture. Its form is a regular polygon of 24 sides, having a diameter of 120 feet, with the roof ascending in the form of a cone to more than 50 feet. The building, having a tent-like form, was at first wholly unsupported in the centre; but not being considered perfectly secure, a pillar was subsequently erected as a central support. The interior is crowded with military weapons of offence and defence. In the centre, tastefully arranged around the pillar, are old English weapons, as the ancient matchlock, the wheel-lock, two-handed swords, early cannon, shields, bills and partizans, pikes, helmets, cuirasses, &c., together with many trophies from foreign powers. Above these is a beautiful suit of armour, said to have belonged to the chivalrous Bayard.

Near the walls are exhibited many other articles of a similar description, consisting of the arms and costumes of the North American Indians, the South Sea Islanders, &c.; rockets of every variety, models of bombs, the



[The Repository and Rotunda, Woolwich.]

larger cannon, howitzers, and mortars, with their different carriages. There are also models of foreign artillery, and a splendid matchlock taken from Tippoo Saib at Seringapatam. Here are also many models of "infernal machines," and several inventions by Sir William Congreve.

In the body of the room are models of forts, cities, and dockyards, including a splendid model of Gibraltar, the Dockyards of Chatham and Ports-

mouth, the Breakwater at Plymouth, the Isle of St. Kitts, the citadel of Messina, the town and environs of Quebec, showing the spot where Wolfe fell, &c. &c. In the rock of Gibraltar the interior passages and excavations, with the whole of the fortifications, are shown. It would be a long task, and an unprofitable one, to notice all the objects of interest in this museum; but several hours may be advantageously employed in their inspection.

CHAPTER VII.

GRAVESEND, ROCHESTER, AND CHATHAM.

GRAVESEND.

GRAVESEND is 22 miles from London Bridge through Dartford; but the cheapest and most expeditious mode of reaching it is by the steam-boats, which ply from the neighbourhood of London Bridge, the fares by which are as low as one shilling and one shilling and sixpence. The voyage is performed in two or three hours, according as the tide may be more or less favourable. An excursion to the three places mentioned at the head of this chapter may be made in a day, and it will be found one of very varied interest, comprising the scenery of the river, the suburban watering place of the metropolis, one of our most ancient cities, and a great naval and military arsenal. The other places noticed in this chapter may be visited by the stranger, who is remaining more than a day at Gravesend.

The western part of Gravesend is in the parish of Gravesend, the eastern in that of Milton. In the time of Richard II. Gravesend was burned, and most of the inhabitants carried into captivity, by a squadron of French galleys. In the reign of Henry VIII. two platforms were raised for the protection of the town, and a blockhouse at Tilbury, in Essex, to guard the passage of the river.

The parish of Gravesend comprehends 630 acres, with a population in 1831, of 5097; Milton contains 650 acres, with a population of 4348: making together 1280 acres, with a population of 9445. Gravesend has of late years become a great place of resort for visitors from the metropolis, and has been much enlarged and improved: the old town is, however, still mean and irregular. Two piers have been erected for landing passengers, and a convenient bathing-house for visitors. There are a library, concert-room, theatre, and public gardens. The country round Gravesend is pleasant, and the view from the Windmill Hill, above the town, extensive. The church, which is near the centre of the town, is a neat spacious brick building: there are a chapel of ease and several dissenting places of worship. Milton church is near the east end of the town.

Formerly vessels sailing from the port of London were obliged to stop at Gravesend to take their clearances. Outward-bound Indiamen still take in fresh provisions here: seamen going out provide themselves with slops. There are considerable lime-works and brick-fields about the town, and a great quantity of land in the neighbourhood is oc-

cupied by market-gardeners, who raise vegetables, especially asparagus, for the supply of the London markets. Many vessels are employed in fishing; and some rope-making and ship-building are carried on. The resort of visitors from the metropolis to Gravesend during the summer season is very great, owing to the cheapness of steam-boat conveyance and its convenient distance from London. The market is on Wednesday and Saturday, the former for corn. The canal which unites the Medway and the Thames enters the latter near Gravesend. This town is one of the polling-places for West Kent. There is a fort at Gravesend, mounting sixteen guns.

The living of Gravesend is a rectory, of the clear yearly value of 307*l.*; that of Milton a rectory, of the clear yearly value of 359*l.*; both of them are in the diocese and archdeaconry of Rochester.

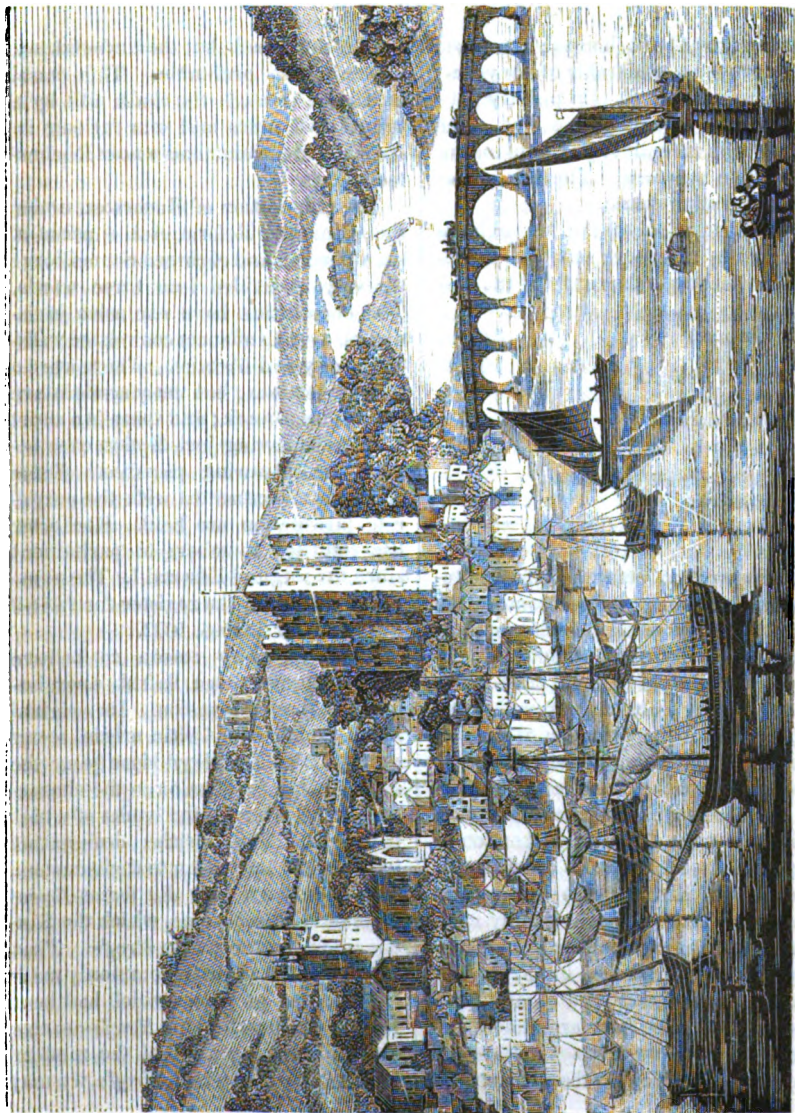
The inhabitants of the parishes of Gravesend and Milton were incorporated by Queen Elizabeth. By the Municipal Reform Act the borough was divided into two wards: it has six jurats or aldermen and 18 councillors.

Omnibuses ply between Gravesend and Rochester, and there is no difficulty in obtaining a conveyance between the two places at hours convenient to the tourist. It is not improbable that a railway will shortly be constructed between the two places.

ROCHESTER.

One of the richest valleys in England

is that through which the Medway—the “Medway smooth,” as Milton has called it—flows on to the ocean. Here it makes its way through broad meadows clothed with verdure, or waving in the proper season with abundant harvests; while the high grounds that look down upon it in other parts are also planted or otherwise cultivated to the summit. On the south or right bank of this river, in an angle formed by a bend in its course, stands the small, but ancient and not uninteresting city of Rochester. The approach to Rochester from the London side of the bridge is very striking. Beyond the bridge is perceived the river coming up from the south; till, having passed the bridge, it suddenly changes its direction, and runs for some distance almost due east. The town is thus skirted by the water on the west and north. To the right, beyond the bridge, lies the town of Strood; and farther down the river to the east, the great naval station of Chatham. The three places form almost a continuous line of houses, of fully two miles in length, and are often spoken of collectively as the “Three Towns.” They contain together a population of above 30,000, without including the country parts of the several parishes. Strood and Frindsbury, considerable portions of which have been added to Rochester both by the Boundary and Municipal Reform Acts, are on the north-west side of the Medway; Strood on the London road, and Frindsbury a little to the north-east. Strood consists of one principal street



[View of Rochester.]

of irregularly-built houses; the place has improved considerably of late years; it has a neat church. Frindsbury consists chiefly of one long street. The church is on an eminence commanding a very fine prospect. There is a Methodist meeting-house.

The population of the borough, as enlarged by the above acts, was as follows, according to the census of 1831:—

Rochester old borough:	
St. Margaret's	5,025
St. Nicholas	3,050
Cathedral precincts . . .	138
Strood intra	1,173
Chatham intra	505
	<hr/>
	9,891
Addition—Strood extra and	
Frindsbury	2,167
	<hr/>
	12,058

There are no manufactures in Rochester. Trading vessels come up to the bridge, where they discharge their cargoes, chiefly coals, which are conveyed up the river in small craft. The oyster fishery is carried on with great activity under the direction of the corporation, who have jurisdiction over the fisheries in the creeks and branches of the Medway. Considerable quantities of oysters are sent to London or exported to Holland; a considerable quantity of shrimps also are sent to London. There are two weekly markets, one, lately established, on Tuesday for corn, and one on Friday for provisions; and there is a monthly cattle-market. The fairs are almost disused. A canal was cut some years ago from the Medway to the Thames at

Gravesend Reach, but the undertaking has not been profitable. This canal is carried through the chalk hills by a tunnel two miles and one furlong in length, which commences near Rochester bridge.

The corporation of Rochester, under the Municipal Reform Act, consists of six aldermen and eighteen councillors: the city is divided into three wards. The corporation have exclusive jurisdiction over all offences committed within the city and liberties. There are no quarter-sessions; but petty sessions are held twice a-week; and there is a court of requests having jurisdiction over several neighbouring parishes. Some other courts connected with the corporate jurisdiction are held. Rochester has returned members to parliament since the reign of Edward I. The number of voters on the register for 1834-5 was 967; for 1835-6, 1002.

There is every reason to believe that Rochester was a British town before the Roman invasion. Its original name, which is of Celtic origin, seems to have been *Dourbryf*, signifying the swift stream, in allusion to the character of the river on the banks of which it stands. This British designation the Romans, according to their custom, smoothed down into the forms *Durobrovis* and *Durobrovum*, which the Saxons again shortened into *Hroffe*. That finally, by the addition commonly made in the case of places which had been Roman stations, became *Hroffe-ceastre*, the immediate parent of the modern Rochester. The Saxon *Hroffe*, we may

also remark, has been Latinized into *Roffa*, and from this form the Bishop of Rochester takes his common signature, *Roffensis*.

The Roman road from Canterbury to London probably passed through the town of Rochester; and it is supposed that the river was originally crossed here by a ferry, for which a wooden bridge was afterwards substituted. The town appears never to have been very extensive; and is, probably, considerably larger and more populous at present than it was in ancient times. With the parishes of Strood and Frindsbury it contained 12,791 inhabitants by the census of 1831, which was, however, 127 under the number returned in 1821. The population of Rochester Proper is, as already stated, under 10,000.

From ancient documents the city appears to have been walled round at least so early as the time of Ethelbert I. king of Kent, or about the close of the sixth century. The walls which it then had may have been originally erected by the Romans. Some Roman bricks still are, or were lately, to be seen in the fragments of the old wall that yet remain. As far as the circuit of this ancient circumvallation can be traced, it appears to have formed a parallelogram, the four sides of which nearly fronted the cardinal points. The enclosed space, however, was of very small extent, being only about a quarter of a mile from north to south, and twice that length from east to west. A small tower which occupied the north-east angle of the fortifi-

cation is still almost entire. It has a winding staircase in the interior. The city gates, of which there were formerly several, have all been long swept away. During the independence of the Saxon kingdom of Kent, Rochester was of importance both as the seat of a bishopric (established about A.D. 604) and as a place of strength situated at the passage of the Medway. It was destroyed by Ethelred, king of Mercia, A.D. 676, and by the Danes in the time of Ethelwulf, A.D. 839: it was besieged by the same enemies (A.D. 885), but relieved by Alfred, who drove the invaders to their ships. In the time of Ethelred II. (A.D. 986) it was besieged, but in vain, by that king, who had a quarrel with the bishop; and was sacked (A.D. 998 or 999) by the Danes. After the Conquest, William the Conqueror either built or it might be only repaired and strengthened a castle here, and placed it under the command of his brother Odo, bishop of Bayeux. In the reign of William Rufus this castle was besieged and taken by the king, against whom Odo had rebelled. In the reign of Henry I. (A.D. 1130), and again in that of Stephen (A.D. 1137), and a third time in that of Henry II. (A.D. 1177 or 1179), the city was nearly destroyed by fire. In the civil war of John the castle was taken by that prince from the insurgent barons (A.D. 1215), and retaken next year by the Dauphin Louis. In 1264 the town was taken, and the castle besieged and reduced to extremity, by the confederate barons under Simon de Montfort, Earl of Lei-

cester, but he was obliged to raise the siege and march against the king. In the rising of the commons under Wat Tyler, the castle was assailed, with what success is not clear. Edward IV. was the last king who paid any attention to the repair of the castle. James II. embarked at Rochester when he fled to France after his abdication, A.D. 1688.

Rochester stands chiefly on a low narrow tract which borders the Medway, and is backed by the chalk hills which rise from the river with a rather steep ascent. It forms one continuous town with Chatham. Rochester consists principally of one long street, called High-street, which crosses it from east to west, terminating on the river a little below the present bridge. This bridge is one of the greatest ornaments of the city, and, indeed, is perhaps the finest old bridge in England. It was built in the latter part of the fourteenth century (being completed in 1392), by the famous Sir Robert Knowles, who, in the reign of Edward III., was equally renowned for his military prowess and his piety. It is 560 feet in length, and 15 broad, and has eleven arches, with a stone parapet and balustrade. It has undergone frequent repairs since its first erection, and some of the arches have even been entirely rebuilt. Within these few years a great improvement has been made on it by throwing the two central arches into one, and thus opening a much wider space for the current of the river and the passage of vessels. The con-

servators of the bridge are an incorporated body, under the title of the Wardens and Commonalty of the New Bridge of Rochester, and have considerable funds appropriated to the repair of the bridge.

The houses of Rochester are for the most part built with brick, though there still remain several ancient ones of wood. The town has a neat appearance, though in general it has no architectural magnificence to boast of. The streets are paved, and lighted with gas, and the houses commonly of respectable appearance. By far the most conspicuous buildings which it contains are its fine old cathedral, and the ruins of its once strong and commanding castle. They stand to the south of the High-street, the castle near the river, and the cathedral towards the centre of the city, within the ancient priory gate.

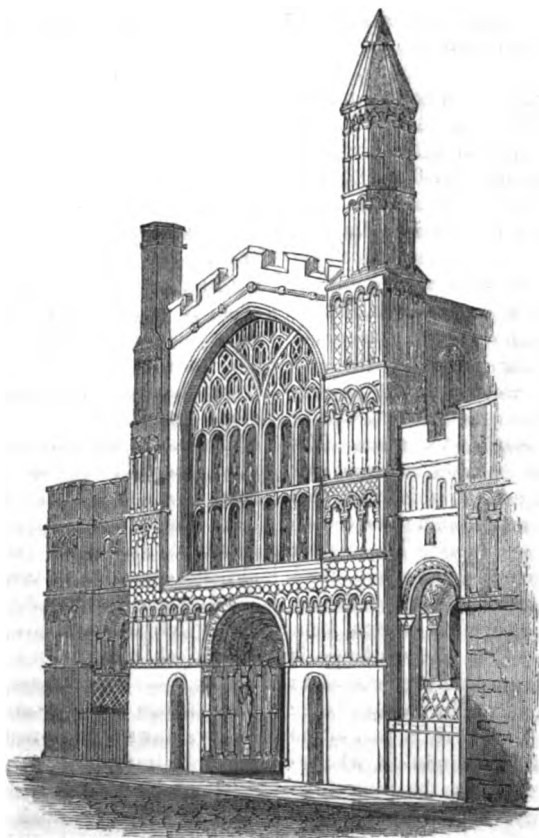
The two parish churches in Rochester, St. Margaret and St. Nicholas, are not remarkable for their architecture, but each has a very ancient stone font, and St. Margaret's contains several ancient monuments. Within the city is a commodious Wesleyan chapel, and a meeting-house belonging to the Society of Friends.

The other public buildings are, a commodious town-hall, with a market-house beneath, and a small gaol adjacent; a clock-house, built by Sir Cloudesley Shovel on the site of a former town-hall; a neat theatre; and the bridge-chamber or record-room, opposite the east end of the bridge. There

are some remains of the city walls; and part of the fortifications of Chatham, especially Fort Pitt, are within the city.

There is no other of our cathedrals, perhaps, that presents so antique and

time-worn an aspect as that of Rochester. It is in reality one of the oldest ecclesiastical edifices in England, having been principally erected before the close of the eleventh century. Its architecture, therefore, is of the earliest



[West Front of Rochester Cathedral : the central window is of later date.]

Norman style, or that which preceded what is commonly called the Gothic. Owing to the chapels and other extraneous structures which have been attached to it, the building has an irregularly-shaped exterior; but what forms the church consists of a nave, with aisles, and a choir, extending, as usual, from west to east, crossed by two transepts, the greater nearest the west end, and the other between the bishop's throne and the high altar in the choir. At the intersection of the principal transept is a central tower, erected in 1825; at the western end of the church there appear to have been originally four low towers, two on each side the doorway and two at the extremities; of these only two now remain, which are of different style. On the north side of the choir, between the two transepts, but nearer to the principal one, is a low square tower, now in ruins, called Gundulph's tower. The entire length of the cathedral from east to west is 306 feet, of which 156 feet constitute the portion from the entrance of the choir to the east end. The breadth of the nave, including the aisles, is 61 feet; and the greater transept is 122 feet, and the other 90 feet, in length from north to south. The chapter-house is in ruins; a mean building, erected in the place of it, serves for chapter-house and library. The nave is part of the structure of Bishop Gundulph, who rebuilt the cathedral near the close of the eleventh century. The west front is a fine specimen of enriched Norman architecture; but the great west window

is an insertion of perpendicular character, as are most of the other windows of the nave. The nave has Norman piers and arches, except in the part nearest the choir, where the arches are early English. The roof of the nave is now flat; but there are indications that it was intended at first to be vaulted. On the south side of the church are some other Norman portions, which appear to have been the cloisters, and some other of the usual monastic adjuncts. Most of the eastern part of the church is of plain early English architecture, of good composition, without much ornament: the details of the doors and of some other portions are very good: the roof of the choir and of both transepts is vaulted and groined, except in one part, which was never finished. The pillars of the choir are of Petworth marble. The crypt is very spacious, extending under the buildings of the choir; its character is early English, scarcely differing, in one part, from Norman. There are a few ancient monuments, singular rather than beautiful, and much mutilated. The old altar-piece, a painting by West, of the Angels appearing to the Shepherds, is now in Chatham church. There are several chapels, in one of which the bishop holds his consistory court. The architecture and masonry of Gundulph's tower give reason to think that it is improperly ascribed to him.

This principal entrance to the church has formerly presented an extraordinary display of rich and florid architecture, although its decorations are

now sadly defaced. On each side of the door, the whole depth of the wall, stands a row of small pillars, supporting a corresponding series of arches. Two of the pillars are fashioned into statues, which are understood to have been intended to represent Henry I. and his queen, Matilda, in whose time the structure was raised. The capitals of the others are formed of figures of various flowers and animals. Every stone of the front arch is also marked by a separate device. Under the arch there appears to have been carved a representation of Christ, sitting in a niche, with an angel on each side; and the twelve apostles at his feet; but the design is now greatly obliterated. There is a large window over the door, which, however, is evidently the work of a later age.

The first Christian church at Rochester was begun by Ethelbert, king of Kent, in the year 690, and finished in 694, when the bishopric was established, and Justus, one of the companions of Augustine, was appointed by that prelate to preside over the diocese. With the exception of a short period during which he retired to France, on the relapse of Edbald, the son and successor of Ethelbert, to idolatry, Justus continued to occupy the see till he was removed, in 694, to Canterbury. Rochester, like almost every other Saxon town, was repeatedly laid nearly in ruins in those early times, sometimes by hostile attacks, sometimes by accidental fires; but if the cathedral was ever entirely destroyed on any

of these occasions, there is at least no account of its having been rebuilt. The first new structure of which we read is that which still remains, and which was begun by Bishop Gundulph, about the year 1080. Gundulph was bishop of Rochester for above thirty years, and appears to have applied his great talents with extraordinary zeal and energy to the promotion of the interests of his see. At the same time with the cathedral, King Ethelbert had founded here a religious house or monastery, which he filled with secular canons. This establishment, Gundulph, among his other innovations, transformed into a house of regular Benedictine monks, the society to which he had himself belonged before his elevation to episcopal rank. Besides his new cathedral, he built a lofty tower, the ruins of which still remain, as an addition to the castle erected in the city by the Conqueror, and a smaller structure of the same kind close to the north wall of the church, which is also still standing, and which is supposed to have been intended as a receptacle for the charters and other records of the see. The funds for his different architectural undertakings he seems to have derived in great part from the liberality of the King, Henry I., with whom and his Queen Matilda he was a great favourite. An old writer, William Lambarde, in his 'Perambulation of the County of Kent,' says of Gundulph, that "he never rested from building and begging, tricking and garnishing, until he had erected his

idol building, to the wealth, beauty, and estimation of a Popish priory." The eastern part of the church, however, forming the choir, was not built till the middle of the thirteenth century; and other parts of the fabric are of still more recent date. Walter de Merton, who was bishop from A.D. 1274 to 1277, was chancellor of England and founder of Merton College, Oxford. John Fisher, bishop from A.D. 1504 to 1535, was beheaded, in the 30th year of his age, by Henry VIII., for denying the king's supremacy. Thomas Sprat, bishop from A.D. 1684 to 1713, was a writer of considerable note; and his successor, Francis Atterbury (bishop from 1713 to 1723), is celebrated both as an eminent writer and a leading Jacobite. Zachary Pearce, bishop from A.D. 1756 to 1774, is well known as a commentator and critic.

The cathedral suffered considerable injury at the Reformation; but much greater at the commencement of the civil wars in the seventeenth century, when a party of the Parliamentary soldiers, under Colonel Sandys, are said to have converted one part of the church into a carpenter's shop, and another into a tippling house. The interior of the cathedral has lately (1841) been repaired, and in many places restored to its original beauty, by the present dean and chapter, who have exhibited equal taste and liberality in the improvements which they have suggested or sanctioned. Arches and windows for a long time filled up have been opened, especially in the north tran-

sept, which now forms a valuable study for the architect and antiquary, as a specimen of early English, not excelled, if equalled, by any in the kingdom.

The diocese of Rochester is one of the smallest in the kingdom, and one of the most slenderly endowed. It contains but one archdeaconry, that of Rochester, divided into the three deaneries of Rochester, Dartford, and Malling, all in the western part of the county of Kent. The deanery of Shoreham, though nearly on every side enclosed within the diocese of Rochester, and frequently reckoned as a part of it, is in the peculiar jurisdiction of the archbishop of Canterbury. The number of parishes in the diocese (not including the deanery of Shoreham) is, we believe, ninety-one; but the additions of dependent chapelries will swell the number to that given by Hasted, which was ninety-nine; and by including ecclesiastical divisions lately formed, to a greater number still. The clear yearly revenue of the bishopric is estimated at 1459*l*. The gross yearly revenue of the cathedral is estimated at 7178*l*.; but the payment of stipends, the maintenance of the fabric, and the support of the grammar-school, cause a deduction of 2072*l*.; leaving 5106*l*. to be divided among the corporation, which consists of the dean and six prebendaries. (*Report of the Ecclesiastical Revenue Commissioners, 1835.*) There were formerly six minor canons, but now there are only three, who fill in succession the offices of sacrist and

precentor, and a master and usher of the King's School.

The Church Commissioners have recommended alterations in this diocese, by which nearly the whole of Essex and the whole of Hertfordshire will be placed under the see of Rochester, which will retain only the deanery of Rochester of its more ancient diocese.

The livings of St. Nicholas and St. Margaret are vicarages of the value of 389*l.* and 136*l.* respectively: there are glebe-houses to both. Strood is a perpetual curacy, of the clear yearly value of 238*l.*; and Frindsbury a vicarage, of the clear yearly value of 449*l.* They are all in the diocese and archdeaconry of Rochester.

There is a proprietary school; and another called the King's School, governed by the dean and chapter. An endowed mathematical free-school was established in 1701. There is an almshouse and dormitory for poor travellers in the town, where they receive entertainment and a night's lodging.

Close by the side of the river, as already mentioned, and immediately above the bridge, stands the castle; still, though now a bleak and roofless ruin, retaining many unobliterated features of its ancient vastness and magnificence. Its site is considerably elevated above the general level of the city; and, dilapidated as its walls are, they still tower far above all the other buildings in their neighbourhood, the pinnacles of the cathedral only excepted. The principal part of the cas-

tle may, indeed, it is said, be seen from a distance of twenty miles.

The fancy of our old chroniclers and legendary writers, which has adorned so many of our cities and buildings with a fabulous antiquity, has not forgotten the castle of Rochester. As Rochester was a military station in the latter times of the Roman empire in Britain, there is reason to believe that a fort occupied a site of the present castle, the position of which is exactly such as would have recommended it for such an erection. Many Roman coins have been found within the circuit of the castle, but none in any other part of the city; from which we may conclude that this was the only part of the city which existed in the time of the Romans. This supposition is still further confirmed by the language of documents of the Saxon period, which speak of the place as still merely a castle. Indeed the name Rochester, as already explained, is an evidence that the station was originally merely a chester, *castrum*, or camp, and that the town has gradually grown up around the military fort.

If the Saxons had a castle here, which is by no means proved by the place having been called by them *Castrum* or *Castellum*, certainly no part of any such building now remains. The oldest portion of the present ruin is in the early Norman style of architecture. The building was most probably the work of the Conqueror,—one of the many strongholds which he erected in all parts of the country to maintain his



[Rochester Castle: the Keep with its Entrance Tower.]

foreign dominion. Here it appears that his illegitimate brother, the famous Odo, bishop of Bayeux and earl of Kent, resided, and kept his court as a sort of petty sovereign of the county. After the death of the Conqueror, Odo, who espoused the cause of his eldest son Robert, shut himself up in this castle, and, being joined by many of the nobility, for some time resisted the arms of Rufus. The rebels were, however, at length reduced. In the latter part of this, or the commencement of the following, reign, the vast and lofty tower which now forms the principal part of the ruin is said to have been built by the famous Bishop Gundulph. But if the bishop's whole expenditure, as is asserted, was only "three-score pounds," comparatively cheap as labour and materials then were, he could not with that sum have advanced such a building very far. It is not improbable, therefore, that the tower was completed, and indeed principally constructed, at the expense of the archbishop of Canterbury, to whom the castle was granted by Henry I., and by whom it is known that extensive repairs and improvements were executed upon the fabric. "By means of which cost done upon it at that time," says Lambarde, "the castle of Rochester was much in the eye of such as were the authors of troubles following within the realm, so that from time to time it had a part almost in every tragedy."

In the reign of John, Rochester Castle was taken possession of, first in 1215, by the insurgent barons, who

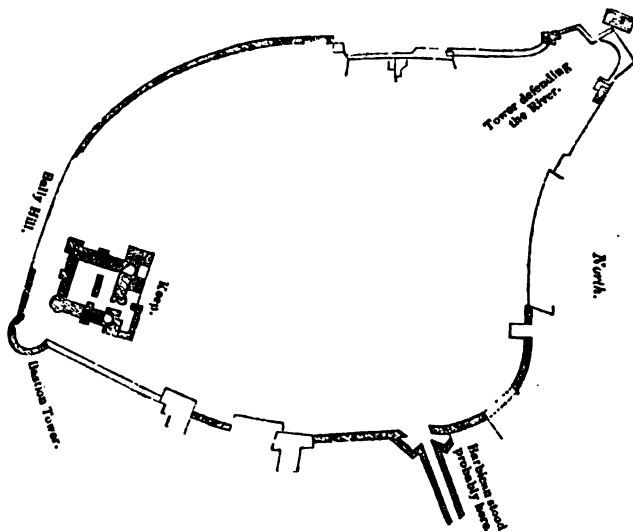
were, however, after some time, obliged to surrender to the king's forces, and, in the following year, by the Dauphin of France, whom they had called over to their assistance. In the time of the next king, Henry III., its strength was again attempted to be turned against the crown, having, in 1264, immediately after the battle of Lewes, been attacked by the victorious Montfort, earl of Leicester. This celebrated person, Lambarde tells us, "girded the city of Rochester about with a mighty siege, and setting on fire the wooden bridge, and a tower of timber that stood thereon, won the first gate or ward of the castle by assault, and spoiled the church and abbey; but being manfully resisted seven days together by Earl Warren that was within, and hearing suddenly of the king's coming thitherward, he prepared to meet him in person, and left others to continue the siege, all which were soon after put to flight by the king's army."

The Norman castles, as fortifications, are the strongest of castellated edifices. They consisted of mounds and ditches, or moats, with walls on the mounds surmounted with battlements: the walls were also fortified at the top with small projecting towers called bastions. In the walls were entrance-gate towers, with bridges either of stone or wood, which were made to draw up and down. The entrances were also guarded with thick doors and portcullises or gates, which dropped down through grooves at the side of the masonry. All apertures, except the gate-

way, were usually very small. Platforms were made behind the parapets. The gateway was sometimes defended by a barbican, and also flanked by towers, as well as the outer walls. The keep was usually in or near the centre of the castle, and it had sometimes a chapel within it. Rochester Castle is a good specimen of a Norman castle.

The last repair of the building that is recorded to have taken place was in 1461, in the reign of Edward IV. Since then it appears to have been almost entirely neglected, and has been allowed gradually to fall into the ruinous state in which it now appears,

though not without the waste of time having been assisted by active dilapidation. The ruin, which is now the property of the earl of Jersey, occupies a quadrangular space of about 300 feet in each dimension. The north, south, and east sides had been formerly defended by a deep ditch; but that is now filled up. The river flows on the west side. The walls are, for the most part, built of rough stones from Caen, bound together by a cement, which has now become extremely hard. Their thickness varies from 11 to 13 feet. Fragments of several towers still remain at the



[Plan of Rochester Castle.]

angles, and in other parts of the building; but of these there is no other to be compared in magnitude to that called Gundulph's Tower, which has been already mentioned, and which stands at the south-east angle of the castle. This is a quadrangular erection, each side of which, at the base, is not less than 70 feet long, while the height of the whole is 112 feet, and is a fine example of a Norman keep. The following interesting account of the castle is from Britton's 'Architectural Antiquities.'

The keep "originally consisted of four floors, including the basement or dungeon story. It is about 70 feet square at the base, with walls varying from 13 to 8 feet in thickness, and rising to the height of 105 feet to the top of one of the angular turrets. The walls of the ground-floor slope or bend inwards; but from that to the top they are continued perpendicularly. Externally there is a pilaster buttress near the centre of each side, and at three angles are square staircase turrets, and a rounded turret at the fourth angle. At the north face is a projecting work, forming a sort of vestibule to the chief entrance doorway to the first floor, and this is approached by a flight of steps commencing at the western side, and returning round the corner. The walls, doors, and windows are constructed to repel assailants.

"The first ascent was by a flight of 12 or 13 steps, leading round the north-west angle to an arched doorway, beneath which a flight of seven steps

led forward to a drawbridge that connected with the arched gateway to the entrance tower: this opened into the vestibule, between which and the keep there were no other avenues of communication than by a third arched passage in the thickness of the wall. This latter inlet to the body of the keep was defended by a massive door and portcullis, the hinges and grooves of which remain; and in the roof are openings for the purpose of showering missiles on the heads of assailants."

The interior of the keep is divided longitudinally by a strong wall into nearly equal parts, which communicate by open arches on each floor. In the centre of this wall is a well of considerable depth, 2 feet 9 inches in diameter, neatly wrought, open to the very top of the keep, and communicating with every story. There were three stout floors besides the basement. "The basement story was low and gloomy; here the munition and stores for the use of the garrison were deposited. In the north-east angle is a circular winding staircase, communicating from the ground to the summit; and within the south wall is a square passage, or funnel, which also communicates with the upper floors, and from its singularity has given rise to much fanciful speculation; among other conjectures, it has been considered to have been used for the conveyance of stores to the upper part of the keep." On the north side is a flight of steps leading to a dungeon.

"The first floor, which seems to have

been that occupied by the soldiery, and into which was an entrance from without, was 22 feet in height. Besides 7 large loopholes, larger than those beneath, there were two spacious conical fire-places, the flues of which gradually contracted to the outer part of the walls, where there were small apertures for the smoke. Another but smaller fire-place is contained in a little apartment within the north-west angle, and here also were two very curiously-contrived and well-defended windows, designed to command a view of what was passing on the steps of entrance. Within the east floor of this wall is a gallery, together with some private apartments, the openings into which were well calculated to secure those who might be there stationed to watch a besieging army. In the south-east angle is a second circular staircase, which, as well as that in the opposite tower, opens to the top of the building.

"The second floor consisted of the state apartments, 28 feet in height, and was more ornamented and lofty than either of the others. These communicated by four large semicircular arches, formed in the partition wall, which was sustained by massive columns and half columns. Within the thickness of the wall round the upper part of this floor is a gallery which traverses the whole keep and receives light from without through 25 small windows: the exteriors of these were more highly finished than any of the lower openings, and inwardly they appear to have been secured by wooden shutters, the hinges

and bare holes of which still remain. This gallery was also open to the state-apartments by six arches on each side." The upper floor was about 16 feet high, and has likewise a gallery, with openings both within and without, similar to the preceding. From the remains of a large arch in the south-east corner it seems highly probable that the chapel was placed here.

The roof of the keep, as well as the floors, have been destroyed: the former, most probably, consisted of a platform on a level with the top of the wall within the parapet: the latter was about five feet high, and had embrasures about two feet wide. The four towers at the angles were raised another story, and had also small platforms with parapets and embrasures. The gutters which conveyed the water from the platform still remain.

The outward walls, which formed an irregular parallelogram of about 300 feet in length, were strengthened by several square and round towers embrasured and provided with loopholes and machicolations. On the north-east was the principal entrance, which was defended by a tower gateway with outworks at the sides.

CHATHAM.

Chatham joins Rochester on the east. The town is in the two parishes of Chatham and Gillingham, and includes Brompton, which is a village connected with the dock-yard and naval and military establishments, at a little distance from what is strictly the town of Chat-

ham. By the Reform Act, Chatham was created a parliamentary borough, with a boundary extending considerably on the south and east sides of the town, and it now returns one member. The population within the boundary was estimated in 1831 at 19,000, and the returns give 16,485 as the population of the town at the same period. Chatham is on the road from London to Dover, and is thirty miles distant from the metropolis.

From various discoveries made in erecting the fortifications which enclose the naval and military establishments at Chatham, it seems probable that the Romans had a burying-ground here. A number of ancient graves and other excavations were opened, and Roman bricks, tiles, coins, and weapons were found. The name of the town is Saxon, and was written Ceteham or Caettham, which is supposed to signify "the village of cottages." It continued an insignificant place until the formation of the dock-yard, since which time the town has sprung up. The parish of Chatham is very extensive; a small part of it is within the liberties of the city of Rochester. The parish church was almost entirely rebuilt in 1788; in addition to it there is a church, erected in 1821 by the Commissioners for Building New Churches, the patronage of which is held by the incumbent. The parish is in the diocese of Rochester.

The extensive naval and military establishments are at Brompton, a little distance from the town, and entirely separated from it by a line of fortifica-

tions. The dock-yard was founded by Queen Elizabeth, previous to the invasion of the Armada, on the site of what is now termed the Ordnance Wharf, and occasionally the Old Dock. It was removed to its present situation in 1822, the demands of the navy requiring increased accommodation. Elizabeth erected Upnor Castle, on the opposite side of the Medway, for the purpose of defending the dock-yard and shipping.

In the reign of Queen Anne two acts of parliament were passed for the extension of the dock-yards and arsenals of Chatham, Portsmouth, &c. But nothing very important was effected at Chatham until after 1757, when, from that period down to 1805, according as alarm respecting French invasion prevailed, or as the rapidly-increasing navy required, new buildings were erected, and the extensive area occupied by the different establishments was enclosed by a strong line of fortifications on the land side, and protected on the river side by strengthening Upnor Castle, by the erection of a martello tower, called Gillingham Fort, on the Chatham side, and other defences.

The naval and military establishments consist of a dock-yard, nearly a mile in length, which has four wet docks capable of receiving vessels of the largest class; an extensive arsenal; barracks on a large scale for artillery and engineers, infantry and royal marines; a park of artillery; magazines and store-houses; besides a handsome dock-chapel, and a number of habitations for the civilians who are employed. The

principal mast-house is 240 feet long by 120 wide. The rope-house is 1128 feet in length and 47½ wide, in which cables 101 fathoms in length and 25 inches in circumference are made. The machinery used in all the departments is of the very best kind. A duplicate of Brunel's block-making machine is kept here, ready for use in case the machine at Portsmouth should get out of order. The engineer barracks are built in a plain and simple style, and are extensive and convenient. There is a school for engineers, which was established in 1812, in which young officers and recruits of the engineer service are trained to a practical knowledge of their duties. Near the dock-yard gate is a large naval hospital, which was erected at the suggestion of William IV. when lord high admiral.

There is an establishment for convicts at Chatham, consisting of four ships, one being appropriated for juvenile offenders, and another used as a hospital. The prisoners are employed in different departments of the dock-yard and arsenal.

The "Chest" at Chatham was established in the reign of Elizabeth, and was originally a voluntary contribution from the monthly wages of seamen for the support of their maimed and superannuated brethren, but which soon settled into a compulsory payment. Several notices occur in Pepys's *Diary* of complaints of maladministration of this charity. On the recommendation of the Commissioners of Naval Inquiry, it was, by the 43 G. III. c. 119, removed

to Greenwich. The monthly payment from the wages of seamen is now abolished by the 4 W. IV. c. 34, and the amount is charged annually on the consolidated fund.

An hospital for lepers was established at Chatham by Bishop Gundulph, in the reign of William the Conqueror. It appears to have been incorporated. Its revenues, which were small, escaped confiscation at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, though attempts were afterwards made in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. to wrest them from the hospital. The building does not now exist, with the exception of a small chapel, but the revenues of the estate are in the hands of the dean of Rochester. On the north side of the High-street, or principal street of Chatham, there is a hospital for decayed mariners and shipwrights, which was founded by Sir John Hawkins in 1592, and incorporated by Elizabeth in 1594. It is a neat and convenient building, and the funds support ten pensioners. There are several minor charities.

Parts of the environs of Rochester are extremely pleasant, and in the outskirts of the town are a few handsome villas, and rows of neat modern houses built on the higher ground which rises from the low margin of the river. At Rochester bridge, the Medway, which discharges into the same estuary with the Thames, is a large tide river. The rise is 18 feet at spring and 12 at neap tides at Chatham. Above Rochester the high lands approach each bank of the river, forming a kind of

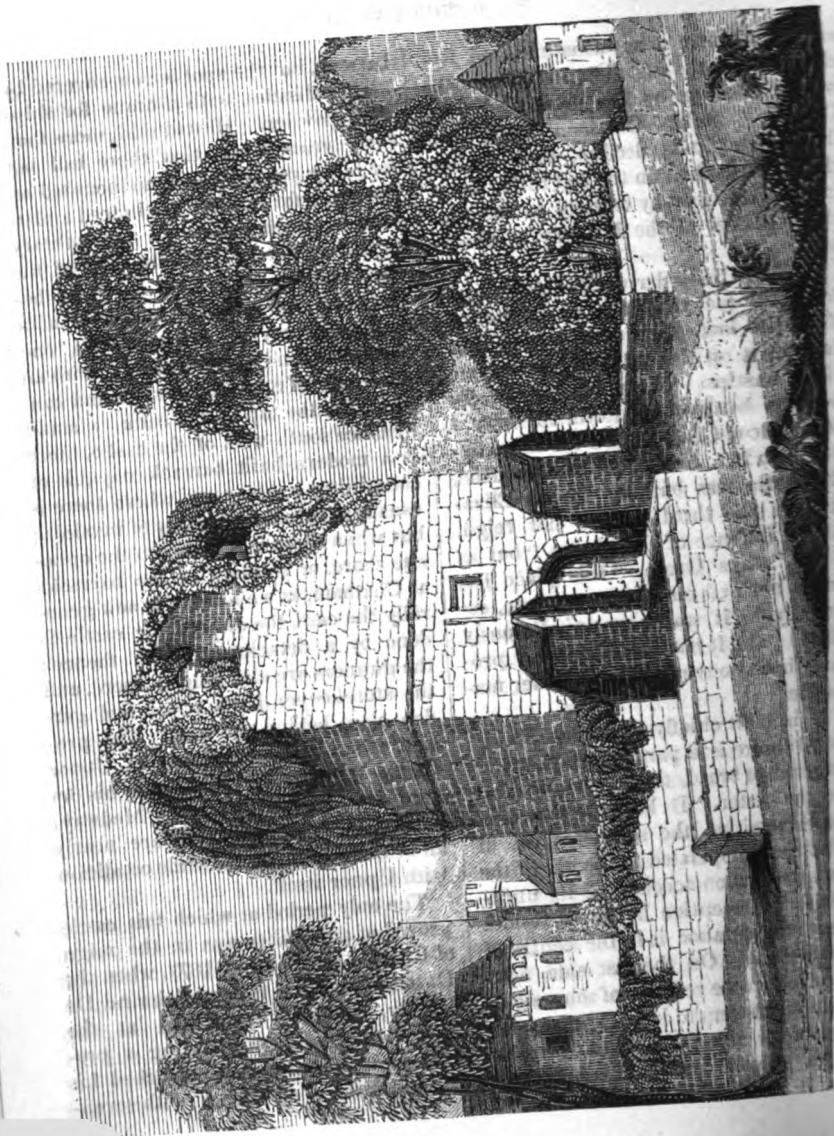
amphitheatre about Chatham and Rochester on the east side, and also on the west, closing on the river at Upnor Castle. Below Chatham Dock-yard the high lands decline, first on the right, and then on the left bank, forming a flat, marshy country to the spacious outlet of the Medway at Sheerness.

Upnor Castle derives its chief interest from the fact that it is one of the last, if not the last, places of defence in England built on the principle of the ancient castles. It is situated on the western bank of the River Medway, a little below Chatham, on the shore opposite to it. According to Kilbourn, the castle was built by Queen Elizabeth, in the third year of her reign, for the defence of the river; "but as a fort," says Grose, "this place has never been of much consequence, especially as it was very injudiciously placed; and it has therefore very properly been converted to a powder magazine."

It is built chiefly of stone. Its external figure is a parallelogram, much longer than broad, the largest side facing the water. It has two towers at the extremities, the southernmost of which is appropriated to the use of the governor, but on account of its unfitness for his reception he never resides there: the entrance is in the centre of the west side. On the east side, next the river, are the remains of some stone walls, which seem to have formed a salient angle, like a modern ravelin. Here, probably, was a platform and

battery, but the spot is now covered by high palisades, with a crane for shipping powder. Hasted said, more than forty years since, that there had not for many years been a gun mounted on the castle for service, nor indeed a platform to receive one. In the military establishment for 1659 the pay of the governor was only 5*s.* a-day; and besides him, the garrison consisted of a gunner, a servant, two corporals, one drummer, and thirty soldiers, with an allowance of 8*d.* a-day for fire and candle. On the top of the bank, a small distance south-west of the castle, there is a modern-built barrack, capable of containing a company, where there is usually a subaltern's party of invalids; but when there is a camp on the opposite shore, or soldiers in the barracks at Chatham, as we believe is now generally the case, the duty of the castle is done by a detachment from thence; the gunners are also lodged there, and the storekeeper has a house and garden close behind the wall. The present salary of the governor of Upnor Castle is 10*s.* a-day, and under his orders are all the forts of the Medway, except Sheerness; but they are nearly all of them in much the same condition with Upnor itself.

The only period at which this castle proved of any utility was in the reign of Charles II., in June, 1677, when the Dutch, under the famous Admiral De Ruyter, suddenly appeared at the mouth of the Thames during a protracted negotiation, and detached his vice-admiral, Van Ghent, with seven-

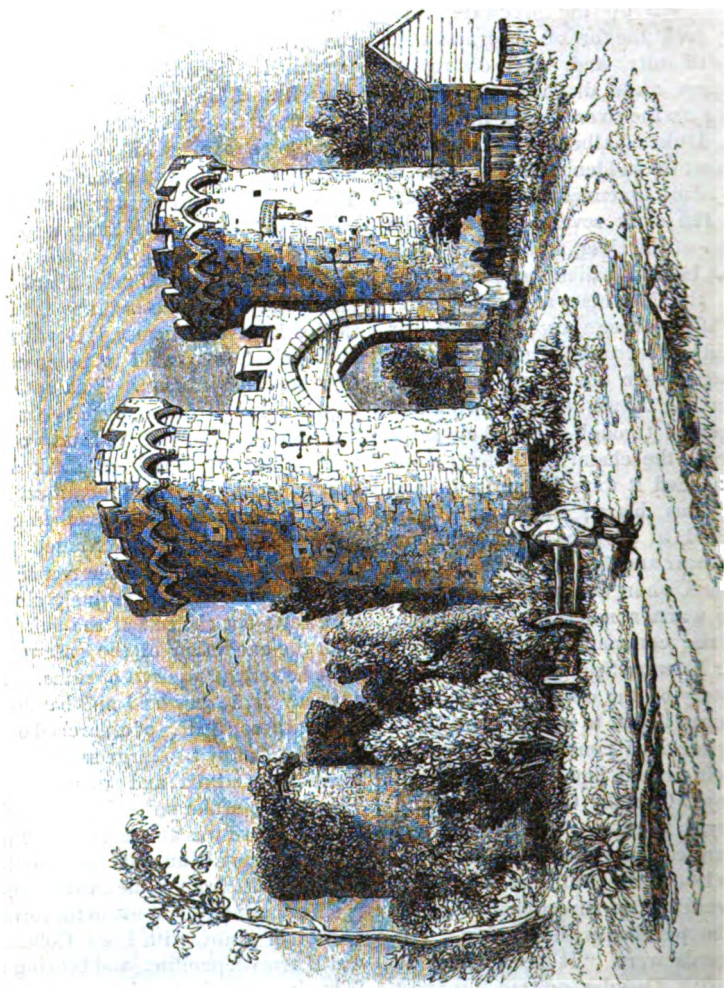


Upnor Castle.

teen of his lighter ships and eight fire-ships to sail up the Medway. Van Ghent took the fort of Sheerness with little difficulty, and, after destroying the stores, made dispositions for proceeding up the river. In the mean time Monk, Duke of Albemarle, made every effort that the suddenness of the surprise would admit to render the attempt abortive. He sunk several ships in the channel of the river, and drew a chain across, behind which he placed the *Unity*, the *Matthias*, and the *Charles the Fifth*,—three large men-of-war that had just been taken from the Dutch, who were then advancing very fast, and, having the advantage of wind and tide, passed through the sunken ships and broke the chain. The three ships that guarded it were instantly in one tremendous blaze; and Van Ghent continued to advance until, with six men-of-war and five fire-ships, he came opposite Upnor Castle; but he there met so warm a reception from Major Scott, the commandant of the castle, and Sir Edward Spragge, who directed the battery on the opposite shore, that he thought it best to draw off, his ships having received considerable damage. On their return, however, they burnt the Royal Oak, the *Great James*, and the *Loyal London*. The former was commanded by the brave Captain Douglas, who, in the confusion of the day, had received no directions to retire, and who perished with his ship. His last words were, "It never shall be said that a Douglas quitted his post without orders." It appears from Pe-

pys's *Diary*, that this attempt of the Dutch created great alarm, and that the greatest confusion and imbecility prevailed at this time in the English councils. After the affair was over, the various parties connected with the admiralty strove, with characteristic meanness, to shift the blame on others. This event was the cause of stronger and additional fortifications being erected.

North of Upnor Castle, about four miles east of Rochester, not far from the banks of the Thames, is Cowling or Colinge's Castle, said to be so called from its cold situation. This castle occupies a low and marshy site, not far from the parish church. It was originally a square building, flanked by towers, surrounded by a moat, and having at a short distance a detached gateway for the principal entrance. At the south-east angle are the remains of a circular tower, picturesquely clothed with ivy; but the rest of the building, with the exception of the gateway, is little better than a heap of ruins. The gateway is a very bold and handsome structure, consisting of an arched doorway, flanked by two large semicircular towers, embattled and machicolated. The groove of the portcullis is still distinct. There was an ascent by a flight of stone steps within each tower to their roofs. On the front of the eastern tower is affixed a tablet of brass, in the form of a deed or grant, with Lord Cobham's seal of arms depending, and bearing the following inscription, in ancient characters:—



[Cowling Castle.]

" Knoweth that both and shall be
That i am mad in help of the contre,
In Knowing of whiche thyng
This is Chartre and Wytnessing."

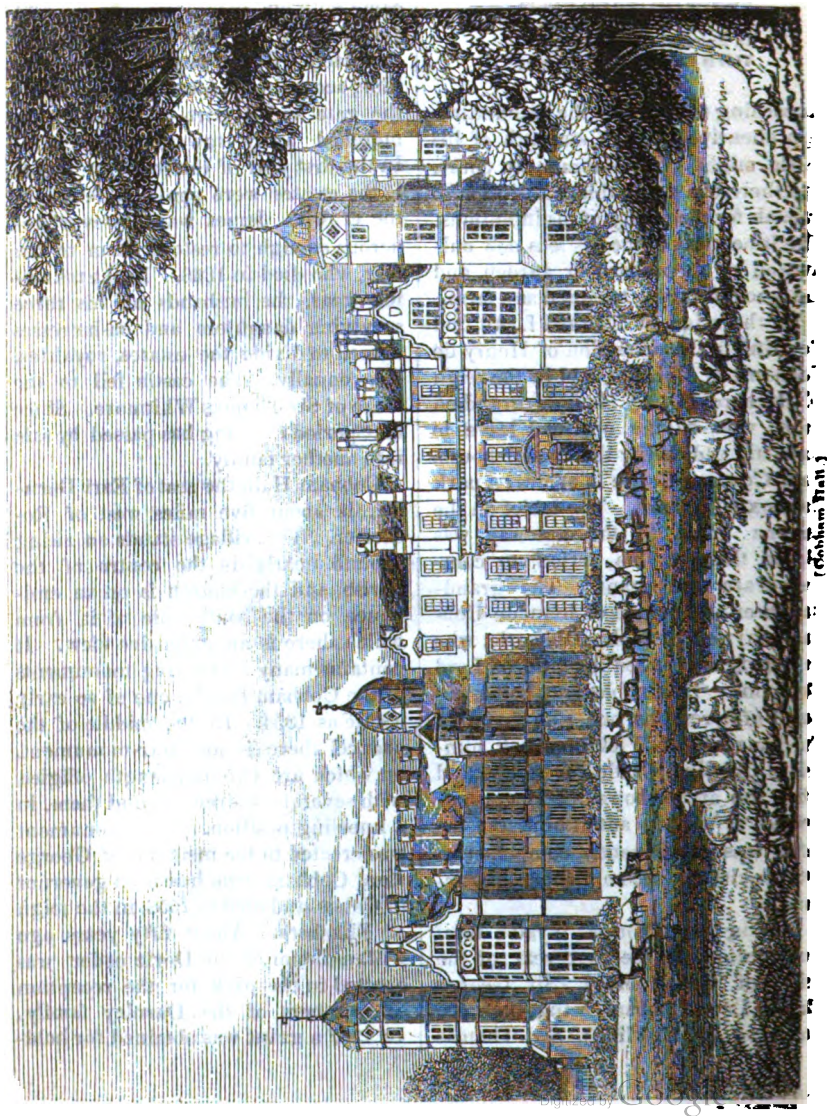
According to tradition, the founder was apprehensive that the strength of his castle might give umbrage at court, and therefore set up this inscription to avouch for the purity of his intentions. The inner area of the castle is now cultivated as an orchard or garden, and the whole demesne tenanted as a farm.

In the reign of Edward I., we find Cowling in the possession of Henry de Cobham, of Cobham, and in the reign of Richard II., of Henry's grandson John, who, having obtained leave to embattle and fortify the manor-house, built Cowling Castle in or near a park then existing here. The tablet on the eastern tower of the gateway was placed there at this period, to commemorate the grant. The granddaughter and heiress of John de Cobham married Sir John Oldcastle, who in her right assumed the title of Lord Cobham. This nobleman, being accused of heresy, as one who favoured the doctrines of Wickliffe, took himself to Cowling Castle for safety, and when the archbishop's messenger appeared, refused to admit him, and the latter was consequently compelled to return without accomplishing his errand.

During Sir Thomas Wyatt's brief insurrection, in the first year of the reign of Queen Mary (Sir George Brook, Lord Cobham, being then the possessor of Cowling), Sir Thomas

came with six pieces of cannon, and endeavoured to obtain possession of the place. But it was too strong for him; accordingly, after breaking down the gate and a part of the wall, he marched away towards Gravesend. In the first year of the reign of James I. the estates were again forfeited to the crown. James was, however, generous enough to restore them to the heir, who died in 1668. In the following year, the husbands of his three surviving daughters and co-heiresses agreed to divide the estates, royalties, &c., equally. The castle fell to the share of Sir Thomas Whitmore. Since that period Cowling has passed by sale into another family.

Cobham Hall, the seat of Earl Darnley, is about five miles west of Rochester. The village stands on rising ground nearly in the centre of the parish, and the church is on an eminence on the south side of it, from which there is an extensive view. It contains many interesting monuments of the Cobham family, one of so early a date as 1354. In the middle of the chancel there is an altar-monument, on which are two full-length effigies, with several children around them, in a kneeling position. This monument was erected to the memory of George Lord Cobham, who had been governor of Calais, and died in 1558, in the reign of Elizabeth. About fifty years ago a Mausoleum of the Doric order was erected in the park for the reception of members of the Darnley family. In 1367 a grant was obtained for hold-



(Graham Hall.)

ing a weekly market, but it has been long since discontinued.

The present hall is described by Hasted, in his 'History of Kent,' as a noble and stately building, consisting of a centre and two wings; the former being the work of Inigo Jones, and the latter having been made uniform, cased with brick-work, sashed, and otherwise modernized, about sixty years ago. The park is extensive, but it was formerly much more so, and is finely interspersed with wood and stately trees. Some of the oaks are twenty feet and upwards in circumference, and Hasted mentions a chestnut-tree which was twenty-three feet in girth.

In the fifteenth century the manor and estates of Cobham were in possession of Joan, grand-daughter and heiress of John Lord Cobham. She is said to have been married five times, and one of her husbands was Sir John Oldcastle, who assumed the title of Cobham. The freedom with which he was disposed to view spiritual matters drew down upon him the bitter spirit of persecution which distinguished the times of Henry V. The clergy charged him with harbouring the Lollards and supporting their opinions; and motives of personal safety induced him to retire to his castle of Cowling, in Kent. Ultimately he was taken and executed,

being accused, though apparently on no just grounds, of being concerned in some insurrectionary movements. His widow kept the estates. In 1603, Henry Lord Cobham, with his brother and some others, was accused of having been engaged in Sir Walter Raleigh's conspiracy. The Cobham estates having come into possession of the crown, James I. granted them to the Duke of Lennox, one of his own kinsmen. In 1714 they came by marriage into possession of an Irish family of the name of Bligh, one of whom, in 1725, was created Earl of Darnley; and Cobham Hall continues to be their seat.

In 1362 a perpetual chantry or college was founded in the parish church by the then Lord of Cobham. At the dissolution it was refounded, and the funds employed in providing a residence for twenty poor persons, with a quarter of an acre of land for each, and a small monthly stipend. The lord of the manor of Cobham names one of the inmates of these houses, who is always the warden; the wardens of Rochester bridge nominate a second, and the neighbouring parishes select the rest of the inmates. In the church are some interesting specimens of tilting armour of the reign of Henry V. (1413—1422.)

CHAPTER VIII.

SHEERNESS, THE NORE, HERNE BAY, MARGATE,
RAMSGATE, &c., TO DOVER.

THANKS to the introduction of steam navigation and the facilities afforded by the Thames, every one of the above-mentioned places is known to countless thousands of the inhabitants of the metropolis. While Herne Bay, Margate, and Ramsgate are visited by the comfortable citizen and his family, the working man, as member of a Friendly or Trade Society, of a Temperance Association, or Sunday-School Union, takes his annual excursion to Herne Bay and back, or to Sheerness, "sailing round her Majesty's fleet" or "round the Nore Light;" and he also is accompanied by his wife and children, and thus the inhabitant of the pent-up court or back street for one day in the year, at least, partakes of that enjoyment which relaxation from labour and care, fresh air and new scenes, never fail to impart.

Thirty years ago, an excursion of above 100 miles, which is the distance from London to the Nore and back, would probably have occupied several days, and for some years after the application of steam to navigation, the time occupied in a trip even from London to Gravesend was several hours, and

the fares were high. But before that period what were the inducements for the citizen of London to visit Gravesend, or, still less, places more distant from London? "It is scarcely half a century ago since tilt-boats for the conveyance of passengers to and from Gravesend were, in shape and speed, just what the Trinity-House ballast-lighters are at present, and taking four tides and more for the completion of the voyage. They were succeeded by the Dundee boats, which were, as fast sailers, both the wonder and admiration of all who witnessed the improvement. They, however, were of the most inconvenient nature, as the passengers were frequently not only called upon to embark in the middle of the night, in order to have the first of the flood, and, after tacking and beating about, together with sometimes too much wind, sometimes too little wind, or none at all, besides being huddled in a low inconvenient cabin, were frequently, after being six or eight hours on the water, compelled to land at Woolwich, Blackwall, or Greenwich, and then find their way in the best manner they could to the metropolis." Steam-boats of a very

superior kind, with handsome cabins, and ample room on deck, now perform the voyage in two or three hours at fares of 1s. and 1s. 6d.; and one of these boats has made the voyage from Gravesend to London and back, a distance of 64 miles, between the hours of four and eight P.M., the actual time occupied in performing the two voyages being three hours and forty minutes. We need not wonder at the locomotive propensities of the inhabitants of London being developed to a remarkable extent by these extraordinary facilities. Thousands have been led to visit the places which are thus rendered accessible by steam navigation, and in less than a single generation towns have sprung into existence, or assumed a totally different character from that which they bore when their visitors were few and far between.

In the present chapter we propose taking the reader along with us from London Bridge to Dover by water, noticing in our progress the most remarkable places on the southern bank of the Thames, and on the coast from the North Foreland to the place of our destination. In the summer season there are seven distinct lines of steam-boats which run from London Bridge to the following places in the county, namely, to Greenwich, to Woolwich, to Gravesend, to Herne Bay, to Margate, to Ramsgate, and to Dover. Some of the Margate and Ramsgate packets leave and take up passengers at Herne Bay, and some of those for Ramsgate call at Herne Bay and Margate. By the Dover packets

passengers may proceed to the above places, and also to Sandwich and Deal. Besides the large number of steam-vessels which sail for the above-mentioned places at specified times, there are many others which are engaged by trade and benefit societies and various associations, for a day's excursion to Herne Bay or Sheerness, or perhaps no further than Gravesend. On these occasions they carry a very full complement of passengers of both sexes and all ages. Though the scenery of the Thames is not picturesque, the noble river has nevertheless a gay and cheerful appearance on a fine summer's day, when it is enlivened by the numerous parties of pleasure who are borne rapidly along upon its bosom; and the sound of music which comes upon the ear from each steam-boat, though the strain be not of the highest order, indicates that pleasure and enjoyment are the objects of the day. In contrast with these sights and sounds are the numerous "colliers" from the Tees, the Tyne, and the various shipping ports for coal in Durham and Northumberland, which enter the port of London to the number of above 7000 annually. We are, however, proceeding too rapidly on our voyage.

We embark at London Bridge, and immediately pass Billingsgate, the great fish-market of the metropolis, adjoining which is the Custom House, and its spacious quay, the only quay in the port of London on which the public can walk, with the exception of a small one in front of the Tower. Soon we

pass the "time-worn" Tower, and the entrances to the St. Katherine's and London Docks with their lofty warehouses; then Wapping, on the Middlesex or left side of the river, and Rotherhithe on the right.

The Upper and Lower Pools extend about four miles in length, and constitute the actual port of London, the legal port (that is, the space comprehended in the harbour regulations) extending from London Bridge down to Bugby's Hole, immediately below Blackwall, a distance of nearly 6½ miles. Before us rises a forest of masts, the density of which, at particular seasons of the year, is truly astonishing to the "inland" man who looks on such a scene for the first time. And how are we to "thread the needle," as going through the Pools has been termed by the pilots? The harbour-laws require a clear channel of not less than 300 feet to be kept for the passage of vessels between the tiers of shipping—a space which has often been encroached on, though latterly the law is somewhat strictly enforced. But the tide is favourable, and a number of vessels are on the move. Here is a ship of 600 or 800 tons going up to the St. Katherine's Docks, towed by a steamer on either side, the three requiring in width from 60 to 100 feet of the navigable channel. That heavy barge, with only one man in it, who finds it easier to let it "drift athwart" with the tide, than to strain his arms and body by holding it "head up," is crossing the bow of a rapidly-advancing steam-boat—a cry bursts

out from half-a-dozen voices to clear the way! And what a turmoil is created in the water by the paddles of the passing steam-boats!—one which has just gone down the river is in length and in breadth of beam nearly equal to a seventy-four man-of-war. How foolish it is to risk that little boat with five or six people in it, and its gunnel within two or three inches of the water's edge, in such an agitated pool! it is dancing on the surface, and if it touches a cable, or ships a wave caused by the swell, it will surely be swamped!

The employment of the watermen is nearly gone; yet one cannot part with the ancient fraternity without regret. Before what we should call roads existed, or coaches were in use, the Thames was the chief medium by which people went from one part to another in the neighbourhood of London. It was emphatically the "king's highway" then, for the royal family used it in going from Westminster up to Richmond, or from Westminster to Greenwich; and the nobility vied with royalty in the splendour of their barges, and the number of watermen who wore their liveries and were under their protection. In an act of Henry VIII. for regulating the watermen's fares (8th Henry VIII., c. 7), it is termed "a laudable custome and usage within this realme of England, tyme oute of mynde," to use the river in boats and barges. In the ensuing reign another act was passed (2 and 3 Philip and Mary, c. 16) "towching watermen and bargemen

upon the ryver of Thamys," in which complaints are made of "divers and many misfortunes and myschances of late yeres past" happening to "a greate number of the king and queene's subiectes, as well to the nobilitiee as to other the common people, that have passed and repassed and been carried by water," which is attributed to the carelessness or want of skill of the watermen. This act required the Lord Mayor and aldermen to appoint overseers of the watermen, and directed that no boat should be used less than 22½ feet in length, and 4½ broad in the midships. Now this minimum, adopted nearly three centuries ago, has been the general rule for a maximum down to our day. Can we wonder, then, that such boats should be unsafe in a river crowded with shipping and navigated by steam?

"Previous to steam navigation," said the clerk of the Watermen's Company, in 1836, "there were a great number of parties in the course of the summer, who went out in boats to Gravesend, or to the villages on this side of it, and to Richmond and higher up; parties hired two, four, six, or eight watermen to row them—but that is all done away." The same individual, however, on being asked if the watermen would not be sorry to see the steam-boats put down altogether, replied, "It is useless their wishing for that—they might as well attempt to kick the moon out of its orbit!" Still, in the face of all this irremediable drying up of the sources from which

they obtained a subsistence, there were 2085 watermen's boats in 1836 licensed to carry passengers below London Bridge, and 648 above it, making a total of 2728. To this add 108 licensed by the Trinity House. In some instances one man may possess more than one of these licensed boats, especially if he have an apprentice. Forty years ago there were 12,000 watermen on the river; at present the entire number belonging to the Watermen's Company is about 8000, counting freemen, widows having apprentices, and apprentices. Of these upwards of 5000 are grown up, and working as lightermen and watermen, some of them taking any kind of employment they can get by the water-side, others (of whom there are at least 2000) mainly depending on their boats for subsistence.

The Upper Pool, which commences at London Bridge, terminates about the spot where the Thames Tunnel is excavated. We now enter the Lower Pool. Greenwich opens on the view with its noble and palace-like hospital, and its back-ground of park and wooded hill, crowned by the Observatory. Opposite Greenwich and Deptford is the marshy peninsula of the Isle of Dogs, nearly round which the river makes a grand sweep. There is one of the harbour-masters in his boat; and that flag, floating from the flag-staff over the Harbour Master's Office at Greenwich, is the "Collier Detention Flag," warning the colliers lying moored in the river that there is yet

no room for them in the Lower Pool, and that they must "bide their time." When the flag is hauled down, the first in turn move upward; and as soon as the allotted spaces are occupied the flag is hauled up again. Pursuing our course down the river, we pass Blackwall with its extensive docks. Since the opening of the railway from Fenchurch Street to Blackwall, the Woolwich and occasionally other steamers take up passengers at the pier at Blackwall. From hence vessels are lying at anchor here and there in the stream, or are moving by the aid of the wind; some great and heavy-laden ship is being towed up or down; and steamers large and small are every now and then rushing past.

The river flows through a flat marshy level, which, especially on the Essex side, has a monotonous aspect. A range of hills, of small elevation, runs from Greenwich to Gravesend, at a varying distance from the bank, and this preserves the scenery from being altogether tame and uninteresting. But it is the river itself which is the great source of interest—the consideration of what it has been and of what it is. It has been a commercial highway for these 1800 years past—it is at present the most important one in the world! We are told, on the authority of Tacitus, that about A.D. 60, the Roman colony of London was then famous for its merchants and its merchandise; and it shared, doubtless largely, in the not inconsiderable traffic maintained by the British Islands with

the Continent during the long period of their Roman occupation. And though, amid the contentions of Saxon, Dane, and Norman, the Thames was oftener visited for the purposes of piracy and plunder than for those of commerce, still the importance of London as a commercial resort was never extinguished, however it might have been diminished and endangered. William the Conqueror found it the most important city in his acquired dominions, and such it has continued. Its commercial progress was at first slow, and even in Elizabeth's time was of small amount, compared with what it has since reached.

Since the reign of Richard I. the Lord Mayor has been recognised, both in law and practice, as, by virtue of his office, the "Conservator of the Thames." To find the origin of that guardianship of the river we must revert to the age when the "communitas" of the city presented the only authority which had the means to preserve the Thames from obstructions and encroachments. The jurisdiction of the "city" on the river extends a long way,—from Staines (which by water is about 37 miles above London Bridge) to a boundary stone set up on the Essex shore, in the estuary, making upwards of 80 miles of river navigation, without reckoning the jurisdiction on the Medway, which extends a distance of only eight miles, but has little more than a nominal existence. The jurisdiction in the Thames includes 34 miles of inland navigation from Staines to Vauxhall Bridge, the towing-

path ceasing at Putney; 3 of town thoroughfare, from Vauxhall to London Bridge; and 43 of sea-port, from London Bridge to Yantlet Creek.*

From the commencement of the present century (under the provisions of the Act for constructing the West India Docks), the practical superintendence of the river has been committed to a committee of the corporation, called the "Navigation and Port of London Committee," having harbour-masters, acting under it. There are four of these harbour-masters, having salaries of 500*l.*, 400*l.*, 350*l.*, and 300*l.* respectively. Other officers are also connected with the care of the river and harbour—a surveyor of the Port of London; a water bailiff, with his assistants; a superintendent of mooring-chains, &c. The average annual expense of the harbour service, taking five years ending with 1835, is 6115*l.* An annual sum of 2467*l.* is spent on the conservancy of the river, making for river and harbour an annual charge of 8582*l.* The members of the Navigation and Port of London Committee perform their duties gratuitously; but an annual sum of 500*l.* is allowed them to defray their expenses.

There is another body which is connected with the river Thames. This is the corporation of the Trinity House, established in the reign of Henry VIII. It has extensive and varied powers

connected with the interests of British shipping and navigation, having the care of lighthouses, beacons, buoys, &c. Its principal business with the Thames is the licensing of pilots, the cleansing of the bed of the river, and the supplying of vessels with ballast, of which it has the exclusive privilege, and from which, in the year 1832, it drew a sum of 25,220*l.* The amount of ballast taken from the river was 422,113 tons, on which the expenses are stated at 23,036*l.*, leaving only a clear profit of 2184*l.*

The corporation of the city of London look to the Trinity House for the removal of shoals in the river, while the Trinity House, however willing to do so, do not feel themselves warranted in lifting anything but what will be serviceable for ballast—mud, clay, &c. being unsuited for that purpose. The consequence of this want of a clear definition of duties has been injurious to the river.

The Admiralty, on the part of the crown, has repeatedly questioned the *extent* of the "city's" jurisdiction on the river, on the plea that "the crown, by its prerogative, has the property in the sea, and in all navigable rivers which have the flux and reflux of the sea, and in every arm of the sea or navigable river, so high as the sea flows, and this property extends as well to the soil as the water." It disputes, therefore, the "city's" lordship of the soil. But the "city" contends that the conservancy of the river conveys with it the lordship of the soil.

* In vol. iv. part 2 of the 'Journal of the Statistical Society' there is a valuable paper by Joseph Fletcher, Esq. 'on the Ancient Prescriptive Jurisdiction over the Thames possessed by the Corporation of London.'

After passing Gravesend fishing-boats and fishermen employed in their calling will frequently attract the attention of the tourist. The quantity of fish caught in the Thames is very great. Many thousand tons of sprats are used as manure, the price of the fish for this purpose varying from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per bushel. The price has been as high as 1*s.* 6*d.*, and in 1829 large quantities were purchased at 6*d.* per bushel. About 40 bushels per acre is the quantity usually applied. Barge loads, containing 1500 bushels, were sent up the Medway to Maidstone in 1829, and the hop-grounds were abundantly manured; and so near London as Dartford the farmers applied this species of manure to their land.

Sprat-fishing commences in November, and the foggy and gloomy nights which prevail at that period are considered most favourable to the fishermen. The finest fish are caught in the same manner as mackerel, but the largest quantities are taken by the stow-boats, manned with five or six men. Mr. Yarrell (p. 123, vol. ii. 'British Fishes') gives the following description of this mode:—"The stow-boat net goes with two horizontal beams: the lower one, 22 feet long, is suspended a fathom above the ground; the upper one, a foot shorter in length, is suspended about six fathoms above the lower one. To these two beams, or 'balks,' as they are called, a large bag net is fixed, towards the end of which, called the hose, the mesh is fine

enough to stop very small fry. The mouth of the net, 22 feet wide and 36 feet high, is kept square by hanging it to a cable and heavy anchor at the four ends of the beams. The net is set under the boat's bottom; and a rope from each end of the upper beam brought up under each bow of the boat, raises and sustains the beam, and keeps the mouth of the net always open, and so moored that the tide carries everything into it. A strong rope, which runs through an iron ring at the middle of the upper beam, and is made fast to the middle of the lower beam, brings both beams together parallel, thus closing the mouth of the net when it is required to be raised." The meshes of the net are so small, that a pen could scarcely be inserted in them, and nothing but water will pass through. Hence the destruction of small fry is immense, and it is alleged that the scarcity of turbot, brill, soles, and other fish in those parts of the coast where they were once abundant is occasioned by the stow-boats. The stow-boat fishermen are usually joint-proprietors, having larger or smaller shares in proportion to their means. The principal owner, for instance, possesses three shares, and is at the cost of keeping the boat, nets, and other materials in repair; the master takes a share and a half; the next man a share and a quarter; and if there be another man he has a single share; or, if his place is supplied by an older apprentice, a share is allotted to him, and a three-quarters or one-half share to the young-

est apprentice. The proceeds are generally divided into seven and a half or eight shares.

Barges laden with corn for the London market are numerous. About

100,000 quarters of corn and grain and 50,000 hundredweight of meal and flour are annually shipped from the ports of Rochester, Feversham, Ramsgate, Deal, and Dover.



[Thames Corn Barge.]

Another river-scene which will attract attention on reaching the estuary of the Medway will be the oyster-boats. The "native" oysters obtained at Milton are in the highest repute, and are consumed in every part of England. The beds at Feversham, Queenborough, Rochester, and those in the Swale and Medway, are also highly esteemed, and supply the London market. The trade in oysters has been an object of consideration in England for many centuries, and now ranks in importance with the herring, pilchard, and salmon fisheries. The excellence of the English oysters was appreciated by the epicures of Rome, and the formation of artificial beds was an object of atten-

tion soon after the Roman conquest of the island. The breeding-places are generally held on leases by a copartnery, consisting of a considerable number of individuals. The Abbey of Feversham enjoyed the right of fishing within the manor of Milton until the dissolution; and it afterwards came into the hands of a company, called the "Free Dredgers," governed by rules and by-laws agreed upon at the court-baron of the manor. The demand for oysters wherever it exists along our coasts creates a profitable source of employment to a class of men who necessarily become experienced seamen.

Dredging for oysters is carried on in fleets, as the beds lie within a com-

paratively small space. It is an interesting sight to see one of these fleets putting out early in the morning for their daily operations. The cut represents an oyster dredger. The boats usually carry a man and a boy, or two men, and are about 15 feet long. The dredge is about 18 pounds weight, and is required to be heavier on a hard than on a soft bottom. Each boat is provided with two dredges; but the fishermen complain that in the early part

of the season too great a number of dredges, and those of too heavy a kind, are used, which injure the beds, and the latter part of the season is thus rendered less profitable than the commencement.

Passing the mouth of the Medway, we come to the Island of Sheppey, already described (Chap. I.). The royal dockyard of Sheerness is at the north-western extremity of the island.



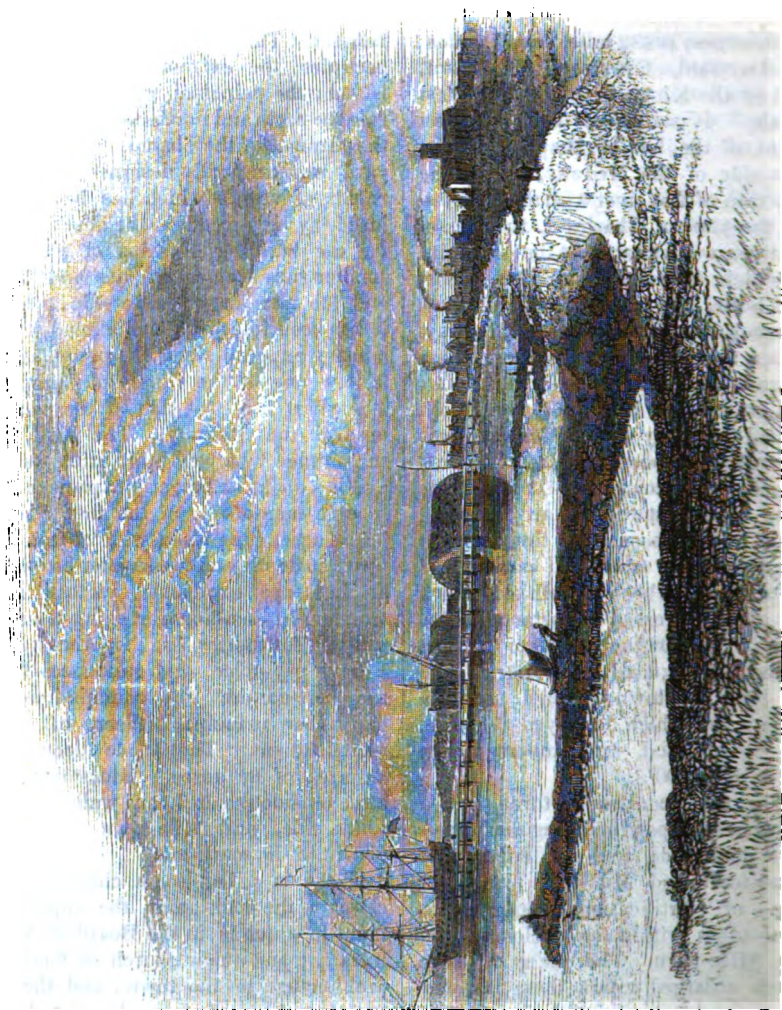
[Oyster Dredger.]

Sheerness is 48½ miles from London, by Dartford, Gravesend, Rochester, and by the King's ferry over the West Swale. It stands at the north-west point of the Isle of Sheppey, at the east side of the Medway, and at the junction of that river with the Thames. In the time of Charles I. the site of the town was a swamp, at the extremity of which, after the Restoration, a fort was built, and mounted with 12 guns to secure the passage up the Medway. When the Dutch war broke out it was intended to augment the fortifications; but on the 10th July, 1667, the Dutch forced their way up the Medway, beat down the defences, and took the fort, which was incomplete. It was however soon restored on an enlarged scale, and has been from time to time augmented by additional works; and a dockyard has been established, which has given increased importance to the place. In 1798 the mutiny of the fleet at the Nore excited great alarm; and in 1827 the town suffered seriously from a fire, which destroyed 45 houses, chiefly of wood, and property to the value of 50,000/.

The town consists of three parts—Sheerness proper, including the fortress and dockyards, and the suburbs of Blue-town and Mile-town: an outer line of fortifications comprehends Blue-town within its enclosure, but not Mile-town. The place has been much enlarged within these last few years, and new streets laid out. The streets are generally paved, and lighted and cleansed under local acts of par-

liament. The "garrison" or fortress occupies the extreme point of the island; the principal batteries, which face the north and north-east, command the entrance of the Thames. The dockyard was originally designed for the repair of vessels which had been injured by any sudden accident; and for the building of ships of war of smaller size, such as frigates and 5th and 6th rate line-of-battle ships; but it has been improved and extended at a heavy expense since the peace, and is now one of the finest in Europe. The wharf is on the side of the point towards the Medway. The yard is surrounded by a well-built brick wall, and has docks sufficiently capacious to receive men-of-war of the first class. There are a fine basin with 26 feet of water in depth, and two smaller basins; an immense storehouse, victualling-storehouse, mast-house, rigging-house, sail-loft, smitheries, &c.; together with a navy pay-office, and residences for the port-admiral, the commissioner, and other principal officers of the establishment. The whole occupies an area of 60 acres. Blue-town is close outside the dockyard wall, on the south side, and Mile-town is more distant to the south-east.

There is a handsome chapel just close to the dock-gates, the appointment to which is in the Board of Admiralty; and a new church of Gothic architecture in the town; and there are several places of worship for dissenters. The trade of the town is chiefly dependent on the dockyard;



[Illustration]

but some shipments of corn and seed, the produce of the island, are made to London, and the oyster-fishery is prosecuted on the adjacent shore in the creeks. Copperas-works are carried on at no great distance. Saturday is the market-day. The population is very dense: that of Sheerness proper was, in 1831, only 61; but the parish of Minster, in which Blue-town and Mile-town are included, had 1430 houses inhabited by 1695 families, 76 houses uninhabited, and 13 building; with a population of 7922, the greater part by far in the two towns. This is exclusive of the troops in garrison, and, we presume, of the convicts employed in the dockyard. Some years since there were a number of families residing in the old ships of war which had been stationed as breakwaters along the shore. They had chimneys raised of brick from the lower-deck.

Queenborough, or Quinborowe, is the capital though not the most important town in the Isle. It is $45\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London, by a road branching from the Dover road eight miles beyond Chatham, and leading into the Isle by King's Ferry over the West Swale. Queenborough (anciently Cuningburg) belonged to the Saxon kings, who had a castle here, on the site of which Edward III. commenced a new and more extensive fortress. Edward made the town a free borough, and gave it the name of Queenborough, in honour of his consort Philippa. This castle was demolished in the time of the Commonwealth, but the moat and well

point out its site. The well, after being partly filled-up with rubbish, was cleared out and restored to use in 1725; it supplies the town with water. Queenborough is a poor place; the greater part of the inhabitants are dependent on the oyster-fishery; a few of them possess boats of their own. The houses form one main street: the church was originally a chapel to the parish church of Minster, but is now parochial: the interior is neat. There is a guildhall and a small gaol under it. Queenborough has a corporation, and until disfranchised by the Reform Act it returned two members to parliament.

The parish had in 1831 a population of 786. The income of the corporation is derived from the oyster-fishery, the management of which is in their hands. The markets, which are now disused, were held on Monday and Thursday. The living is a perpetual curacy in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, of the clear yearly value of 66*l.*, with a glebe-house.

Minster, also in the Isle, is an extensive parish, and included Sheerness before the latter obtained an independent jurisdiction. The church is an ancient structure, and formerly belonged to a monastery founded in the seventh century by the widow of Ercombert king of Kent. The monastery was destroyed by the Danes, but was re-established in the twelfth century. Some remains of the monastic gate-house may yet be seen.

The NORE is an extensive shoal at

the mouth of the Thames, 53 miles from London, 31 from Margate, and 4½ from Sheerness. A vessel of 100 tons burthen is anchored here, and a lantern of eight lamps is lighted every evening at sunset to warn mariners from the dangers which beset them. The Nore floating light is under the management of the Trinity House, and is supported at an expense of about 500*l.* a-year. British vessels pay one shilling if under 100 tons, and an additional shilling for every 100 tons, but vessels of 500 tons and upwards pay no more than 6*s.* These Light duties are payable at London, Gravesend, Leigh, Sheerness, Rochester, Faversham, and their member ports, and are due for each time of passing on the upward passage only. Foreign vessels pay double.

Passing the Isle of Sheppey, we approach the mouth of the æstuary called the Swale. In the early morning we may see fleets of fishing-boats from Faversham and Whitstable standing out from their respective ports, and crossing Whitstable Flats. The inhabitants both of Whitstable and Faversham are extensively engaged in the oyster-fishery. There is a railway from Whitstable to Canterbury, a distance of six miles; and Whitstable may be considered as the port of that city. Hoys convey goods to and from London, and the bay is frequented by colliers from Newcastle, Shields, &c., whose cargoes are discharged here, and are afterwards conveyed by railroad and distributed in an extensive district around

Canterbury. In dredging for oysters round a rock called the "Pudding Pan," many pieces of Roman pottery have been found. It is supposed that a vessel with a cargo of earthenware was wrecked near this spot during the Roman period.

Having crossed the æstuary of the Swale, we quickly reach Herne Bay, which, from a small and secluded hamlet, has risen in the course of a few years to the rank of a watering-place. There are several hotels, good lodging-houses, hot and cold baths, and every accommodation for visitors, though they must not expect the gaiety of Margate or Ramsgate; but to many the quietness of Herne Bay is one of its best recommendations. The place has been laid out on so extensive a scale, that it will long have an unfinished appearance. There is a pier or jetty, built on wooden piles, extending three quarters of a mile over the sand or ooze, which is left dry at low water. A handsome clock-tower stands near the jetty. The seaward view is very pleasing, and embraces the south-eastern parts of Essex. A church and dissenting chapel have been erected since Herne Bay became a place of resort. The parish church, two miles distant from the bay, is ancient, and the nave is divided from the choir by a screen of carved oak. The vicinity of Herne Bay is very agreeable, and Canterbury is only 9 miles distant. In the summer season the steam-boats ply constantly between London and Herne Bay; and there are coaches to Can-

terbury, Dover, Deal, and other places in the county.

Between Herne Bay and Margate is Reculver, the site of the Roman station Regulbium. After the Saxons had subjugated Kent, Reculver was the seat of the Saxon kings, under the name of Raculf. The church has two high towers surmounted by spires at the angles of the west front. It is better known to mariners under the appellation of "the Sisters," tradition having recorded that the two towers were erected by an abbess of Feversham in memory of her sister, who with herself was wrecked here, the foundress being the only survivor. The towers are useful landmarks in navigating this part of the Thames, and the Trinity House contributes to their repair. Ethelbert II., who died in 760, was buried in this church. It is said that in former times the edifice was held in so much reverence, that while ships passed it the mariners were accustomed to lower their topsails. The sea has been gradually encroaching on this part of the coast, and part of the churchyard of Reculver has already been swept away.

MARGATE, about 11 miles from Herne Bay, is in the Isle of Thanet, 65 miles east from London, direct distance, and about 16 miles north-east from Canterbury by the road. It is a favourite watering-place for the inhabitants of London, and abounds with all the resources for health, pleasure, and amusement which distinguish well-frequented towns of this class.

Hasted, in his 'History of Kent,' published in 1799, says, "The town of Margate was, till of late years, a poor inconsiderable fishing-town, built for the most part in the valley adjoining the harbour, the houses of which were in general mean and low; one dirty narrow lane called King Street having been the principal street of it." Its name is probably derived from Mere gate, signifying an opening or gate into the sea. At present the principal streets of Margate are regularly constructed and well paved, and lighted with gas; and many of the houses and public buildings, including an esplanade, squares, &c., are of a superior description. The spring-water is excellent, and the supply abundant. The shore is well adapted to sea-bathing, and to this circumstance, added to the generally acknowledged salubrity of the air, and the facility of communication with the metropolis by means of steam-vessels, must be attributed the rapid increase in the population of the parish of St. John, which in 1831 amounted to 10,339.

A handsome new church has been built at Margate within these few years, the old one not affording sufficient accommodation for the inhabitants and visitors. There is an hospital, called Draper's Hospital, founded in 1709 by Michael Yoakley, a member of the Society of Friends, for the housing and maintenance of decayed housekeepers. The sea-bathing infirmary at West-Brook, near Margate, was established by the benevolent Dr.

Lettsom in the year 1792, assisted by committees which had been formed both in London and Margate. The object of the founders was to enable poor people to participate in the advantages of sea-bathing. The building consists of a centre and two wings, and contains wards for the reception of nearly 100 patients. The national school affords gratuitous instruction to about 400 children of both sexes.

The present stone pier was erected under the superintendence of Messrs. Rennie and Jessop, at an expense exceeding 100,000*l*. It is 903 feet long, 60 feet wide in the broadest part, 26 feet high, and the outer wall is 34 feet above low-water mark, having a parapet 4½ feet high: at the extremity of the pier is the lighthouse, built from a design of Mr. Edmunds. The erection of this pier has added greatly to the utility of the harbour, which is much exposed to winds from the north-east. A local act authorizes the levying of a toll of two shillings upon each person going to or returning from London, and embarking and landing at the pier. The pier is a favourite promenade, and is well gravelled and lighted with gas. The charge for admission is only one penny per day.

Margate is within the jurisdiction of Dover, one of the Cinque-ports. In the year 1787 the inhabitants thought their town of too much importance to be longer subjected to this jurisdiction, and accordingly applied to the crown for a charter of incorpo-

ration; but, upon the case being heard before the attorney-general, the opposition of Dover was so strong, that their petition was refused, and since then the application has not been renewed.

Besides the numerous places of amusement and entertainment which Margate contains, there are others in the vicinity, which are much resorted to in the season. At St. Peter's, two miles from Margate, public breakfasts are given twice a-week at an establishment which was commenced after the celebrated house and tea-gardens called Dandelion became a private residence. The pleasure-gardens called the Jardin de Tivoli are in a pleasant valley about half a mile from Margate. Here coffee and other refreshments may be obtained, and concerts and other entertainments are given in the season. The Wilderness is another pleasure-ground, and is on the road to North Down. Shallows is a humbler place of resort, and the amusements are chiefly for the gratification of children. The road to it is by a foot-path leading to the little village of St. Peter's. Aquatic excursions are frequently made to Reculver.

KINGSGATE, 3 miles from Margate and 1 from Broadstairs, is situated in a beautiful little bay. Here a fine mansion was erected by Henry Lord Holland, on a plan resembling Tully's Formian Villa on the coast of Baia. The edifice is now partly in ruins. The somewhat fantastic buildings representing ruins and ancient edifices,

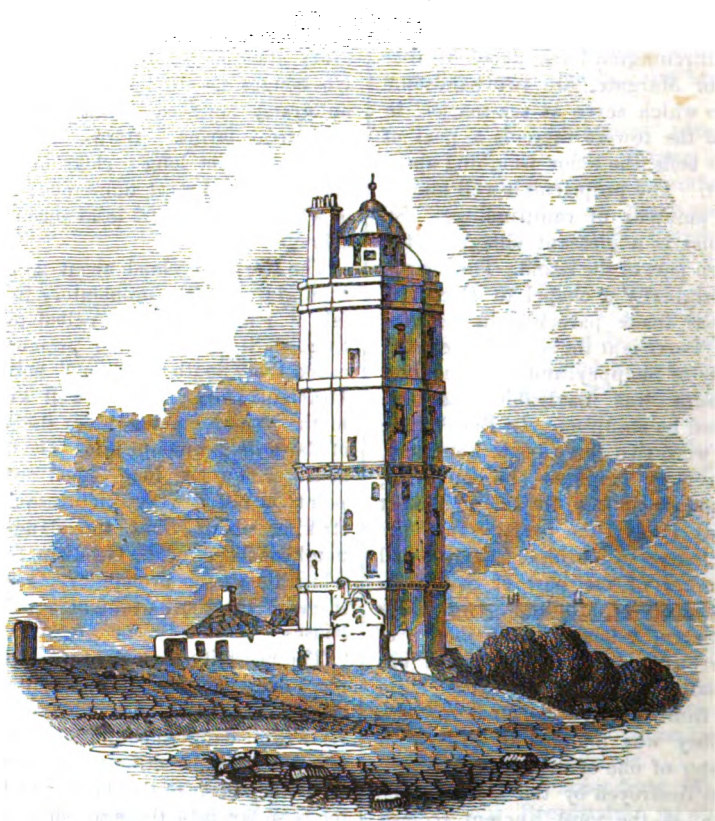
and which were designed to embellish the grounds, are still more rapidly hastening to decay.

In Birchington Park, about 3 miles west of Margate, are two handsome towers which serve as sea-marks: in one of the towers there is a peal of twelve bells, the tenor weighing about 16 cwt. The proprietor is well known as an amateur of campanology. St. Nicholas is a pleasant village in the western part of the island. The church was originally a chapel to Reculver, but was made parochial in the year 1300. Sarre is at the south-western extremity of Sheppey, and when the river Wantsum was navigable was frequented by shipping. In Bede's time there were two ferry-boats kept here, which were employed in conveying men and cattle from the Isle of Thanet to East Kent: the passage into the island is now by a bridge. Sarre is still a member of the port of Sandwich. The church of Monkton, two miles from Sarre, belonged to the monks of Canterbury, and in the chancel are the stalls in which they sat. Two miles from Monkton is Minster, where an abbey was founded in 670 by a daughter of one of the kings of Kent; it was destroyed by the Danes. The church is the most ancient ecclesiastical edifice in the Isle of Thanet: it is a cross church with a tower at the western end, and is chiefly in the early English style. There are very extensive views from Mount Pleasant, an eminence about half a mile from Minster. A walk through these places pre-

sents a scene of great agricultural wealth. Mr. Cobbett observes ('Rural Rides'):—"In this beautiful island every inch of land is appropriated. No hedges, no ditches, no commons, no grassy lanes—a country divided into great farms. Barns, I should think, 200 feet long; ricks of enormous size and most numerous; crops of wheat five quarters to an acre on an average."

The North Foreland, about 2½ miles from Margate, is a promontory in the Isle of Thanet, and is so called to distinguish it from another promontory called the "South Foreland," between Deal and Dover. It was well known to the Roman seamen under the name of Cantium Promontorium. The lighthouse which has long stood on this point is not a very picturesque or striking object; but the dangerous neighbourhood of the Goodwin Sands, which lie off the promontory, renders it one of the most useful of our lighthouses.

The necessity for a lighthouse at this place must have become apparent when the Goodwin Sands (described in Chap. I.) became dangerous, and when it was found that, in directing their course so as to keep clear of this land, which extends so far into the sea, ships were extremely liable to strike on the sands at night before they were aware. There was probably some sort of a beacon at an earlier period, but the first distinct intimation concerning a lighthouse on the North Foreland is in the year 1636, when Charles I., by



[North Foreland Lighthouse.]

letters-patent, granted to Sir John Meldrum licence to continue and renew the lighthouses then by him erected on the North and South Forelands. It seems that the lighthouse

erected by Sir John consisted merely of a house, built with timber, lath, and plaster, on the top of which a light was kept in a large glass lantern, for the purpose of directing ships in their

course. This house was burnt down by accident in the year 1693; after which, for some years, use was made of a sort of beacon on which a light was hoisted. But near the end of the same century a strong octagonal structure of flint was erected, on the top of which was an iron grate quite open to the air, in which a good fire of coals was kept blazing at night.

About the year 1732 the top of this lighthouse was covered with a sort of lantern, with large sash windows, and the fire was kept bright by bellows, with which the attendants blew throughout the night. This contrivance is said to have been for the purpose of saving coals; but it would seem more probable that it was in order to preserve the fire from being extinguished by rain. However, the plan did not work well, and great injury resulted to navigation, as many vessels were lost on the sands from not seeing the light; and so little was it visible at sea, that mariners asserted that they had often in hazy weather seen the Foreland before they could discover the light. They added that, before the lantern was placed there, and when the fire was kept in the open air, the wind kept the fire in a constant blaze, which was seen in the air far above the lighthouse.

Complaints of this sort were so loud and frequent, that the governors of Greenwich Hospital, to whom the lighthouse then belonged, sent Sir John Thomson to examine and make arrangements on the subject. He ordered the lantern to be taken away,

and things to be restored to nearly their former state, the light to continue burning all the night until daylight.

Towards the end of the last century the North Foreland Lighthouse underwent some considerable alterations and repairs, which brought it nearly into its present state. Two stories of brick were built on the original structure, which raised it to the height of about 100 feet, including the room at the top in which the lights are kept. This room, which may be described as a dome raised upon a decagon, is about 10 feet in diameter and 12 in height. To prevent accidents from fire, it is coated with copper, as is also the gallery around it. This gallery is much frequented by the visitors to Margate on account of the extensive views which it commands, some idea of which may be formed from the fact that the lights are visible in clear weather at the Nore, which is 30 miles distant. The building is whitewashed, except the light-room at the top, and the several other rooms which it contains are occupied by the persons who have it under their charge.

The two sides of the decagon towards the land are walled up; but at the time of the above alterations the coal-fire was discontinued, and in each of the other faces of the decagon was placed a patent lamp with a reflector and a magnifying lens. These lenses were 20 inches in diameter, and cost 50*l.* each, and were recommended as curiosities to the notice of visitors in

the "Margate Guides." When the Trinity House, soon after this, acquired the management of the lighthouse, these costly lenses were immediately removed, and plate-glass was substituted, in consequence of which the light, though otherwise unaltered, appears much more brilliant than before.

The grant of Sir John Meldrum, who originally established the lighthouse in the North Foreland, was for 50 years, during which he was empowered to demand 1*d.* per ton on all British ships that passed the lighthouses, and 2*d.* per ton on all foreign ships, paying to the crown a reserved rent of 20*l.* a-year. This grant was renewed from time to time to private persons, the last of whom, Mr. Osbols-ton, bequeathed by will the remainder of his interest to Greenwich Hospital. When this remainder expired in 1733, the crown renewed the grant to the Hospital for 99 years, on the termination of which in 1832 the lighthouses were transferred to the Elder Brothers of the Trinity House, who agreed to give 8366*l.* in compensation to the Hospital, and at the same time to reduce the dues in future to $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per ton on British ships, and $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* per ton on foreign vessels.

At the time of the grant to Greenwich Hospital in 1733, the Foreland lighthouses yielded together about 1200*l.* per annum, and in some years 1400*l.* In 1831, the dues remaining the same, the gross receipts of the lighthouses amounted to 12,010*l.*, an

increase which affords a curious incidental illustration of the extension of maritime commerce within the last hundred years. Of this sum 2124*l.* was expended in collecting the dues and maintaining the lighthouses, and 20*l.* was paid as rent to the crown, leaving 9866*l.* profit to the Hospital. The Trinity Board calculates that under the diminished dues its gross receipts from the lighthouses will amount to 2350*l.*, leaving, after all expenses, 900*l.* to compensate the Board for the outlay of capital; the resulting profit being for the benefit of merchant seamen.

Passing round the North Foreland we reach BROADSTAIRS, a pleasant and retired watering-place. A small pier for the protection of the fishing-craft was anciently built here, and the passage down the cliff to the sea was defended by an arch, gates, and portcullis; the arch still remains. Many Roman coins have been found here. There are some remains of an ancient chapel near the pier, which is now converted into a dwelling-house. There are many good houses at Broadstairs, with libraries, warm baths, and other accommodations: the rides and walks in the vicinity are very pleasant. Broadstairs is two miles from Margate, and a still shorter distance from Ramsgate.

RAMSGATE is 71 miles from London Bridge through Dartford, Rochester, and Canterbury, and the distance by water is considerably more: it is 20 miles from Canterbury. The ville of Ramsgate, comprehending 260 acres, was in-

cluded formerly in the parish of St. Lawrence, in the hundred of Ringslow or Thanet, in the lathe of St. Augustine ; but provided separately for its own poor : in 1827 it was made a distinct parish. The ville is a member of the Cinque Port of Sandwich.

Ramsgate was anciently a poor fishing-town, consisting of a few meanly-built houses, on the coast of the Isle of Thanet, which here fronts the south-east : it had a small wooden pier. After the Revolution of 1688 some of the inhabitants engaged in the Russian trade, by which they acquired wealth, and this led to the improvement of the town. When the practice of families from London and elsewhere of resorting to the sea-side became general, Ramsgate was one of the earliest frequented spots, though for some time eclipsed by the superior attractions of Margate. The improvement of the harbour, by the erection of the piers and other works in the middle and latter part of the last century, gave another impulse to the prosperity of the town. Early in the present century a stone lighthouse was erected on the head of the west pier ; a small battery is fixed at the head of the east pier. The east pier is one of the longest in the kingdom, extending 2000 feet ; the western pier extends about half that length : they are built of Portland and Purbeck stone and Cornish granite, and form a fine promenade. The harbour includes an area of 48 acres, and furnishes a convenient shelter for vessels which are obliged by heavy gales to

run from the Downs. It is provided with a basin and floodgates in the upper part of the harbour for scouring it from the drifted sand or mud.

The old part of Ramsgate is situated in one of those natural depressions (called in the Isle of Thanet "gates," or "stairs") in the chalk, which open upon the sea. This part of the town is low compared with the higher parts on each side of it. The streets in the old part of the town are narrow and indifferently built. The newer part of the town, from its elevated site on the cliffs, commands an extensive sea-view, and consists of several streets macadamized and lighted with gas. Many of the houses are very handsome : some are arranged in streets, terraces, or crescents, while others are detached villas. A considerable number of houses have been built within the last four or five years. There are bathing-rooms, assembly-rooms, boarding and lodging houses, a handsome new church, a chapel-of-ease, and several dissenting meeting-houses.

The population of the ville of Ramsgate, including the town, was, in 1831, 7985. There is a considerable coasting trade ; coal is extensively imported ; and ship-building and rope-making are carried on. It is observable, as indicating the commercial character of the place, that, though the population of Margate exceeds that of Ramsgate by 2300 or 2400, there are not half as many persons engaged in retail trade or handicraft as at the latter place. The markets are on

Wednesday and Saturday. A considerable fishery is carried on; in the summer steam-boats sail regularly between London and Ramsgate.

The living of Ramsgate is a vicarage, of the clear yearly value of 400*l.*, in the gift of the vicar of St. Lawrence, the mother church.

PEGWELL BAY, famous for its shrimps, is an indentation of the coast a short distance south of Ramsgate. In rambling along the shore perhaps such a sight as that described in the following extract from the 'Natural Theology' may be witnessed: "Walking," says Paley, "by the sea-side, in a calm evening, upon a sandy shore, and with an ebbing tide, I have frequently remarked the appearance of a dark cloud, or, rather, very thick mist, hanging over the edge of the water, to the height perhaps of half a yard, and of the breadth of two or three yards, stretching along the coast as far as the eye could reach, and always retiring with the water. When this cloud came to be examined, it proved to be nothing else than so much space filled with young *shrimps*, in the act of bounding into the air from the shallow margin of the water, or from the wet sand." Paley adds—"If any motion of a mute animal could express delight, it was this: if they had meant to make signs of their happiness, they could not have done it more intelligibly. Suppose, then, what I have no doubt of, each individual of this number to be in a state of positive enjoyment;—what a sum, collectively, of gratification and

pleasure have we here before our view!"*

The mode of taking shrimps is with a net, used either by a person who wades up to his knees in water, or by fishermen who go out in a boat. Women and even children may pursue the simpler plan; in which case the mouth of the net is stretched out by a transverse piece of wood, to which a pole is affixed, the end being placed against the breast; and in walking forward the edge of the part to which the net is fastened is pushed along the ground, and the shrimps, in endeavouring to escape, are caught in the bag of the net. The boats which are used by the fishermen are sometimes of several tons burden, and they proceed further from the shore—to the edge, perhaps, of some sandbank which is the great resort of shrimps. They throw out three or four nets, which are made to drag on the bottom by means of leaden weights; so that the principle of both modes is the same. Shrimps are not edible until they have been boiled, and the boat fishermen often boil them on board. They are never so much relished as at the place where they are caught. The preparers of potted shrimps profess to make use only of those brought from Pegwell Bay. Their superiority is to be attributed to the grounds which they frequent affording food of a better kind. It was in Pegwell Bay, near Ipswich Fleet,

* Paley's "Natural Theology," by Lord Brougham and Sir C. Bell, vol. ii. p. 113.



[Young Shrimper.]

now Ebbs Fleet, that Hengist and Horsa landed, about 446 or 449.

SANDWICH is eight miles from Ramsgate by land, 67½ miles from London through Rochester and Canterbury, and 13 miles from the latter city. Sandwich Haven is at the mouth of the Stour in Pegwell Bay. The town stands in the marsh-lands which border on the Isle of Thanet, and is on the south side of the Stour. It is a municipal and parliamentary borough. Sandwich was early a place of importance, and an original member of the Cinque Ports. It probably arose out of the decay of the Roman Ritupæ (Richborough). The name Sondwic occurs as early as A.D. 665. The Danes were defeated here, A.D. 851 or 852, by Athelstan, son of Ethelwulf. They were at Sandwich again in A.D. 993 or 994, and in A.D. 1006 or 1007; the Anglo-Saxon fleet was at Sandwich in A.D. 1008, and the Danish fleet in A.D. 1013 and 1014. Canute landed here in A.D. 1016. It is again mentioned as a place of rendezvous for naval armaments in the time of Edward the Confessor, in whose reign the town had 307 inhabited houses. At the time of the Domesday Survey there were 383. At this time the port belonged to the archbishop of Canterbury and the monks of Christchurch, Canterbury. Part of the rent received by the archbishop consisted of 40,000 herrings for the monks' food. In the reigns of Edward I. and III. the archbishop and monks gave up Sandwich to the crown, in exchange for lands granted elsewhere.

In the time of Henry III. the town was burnt by the French. In the French wars of Edward III. it is mentioned as a place of rendezvous or of landing. In the reign of Henry VI. the French took and plundered the town three times. To prevent similar disasters, Edward IV. renewed the fortifications; and in following reigns attempts were proposed or made to preserve or improve the harbour, which was beginning to decay from the accumulation of sand. This choking up of the harbour led to the decline of the town, which was however revived by the settlement of the Flemish refugees in the reign of Elizabeth, and the introduction by them of the manufacture of baize and other woollens. The same emigrants cultivated the lands round the town for vegetables, flax, and canary-seed.

The town is irregularly and inconveniently laid out: the streets and lanes are paved and lighted, but they are very narrow. The ancient municipal limits comprehend the three parishes of St. Mary, St. Peter, and St. Clement, and the extra-parochial district of St. Bartholomew, and the town is partly in each. The area comprehended in these limits is 1960 acres; the population, in 1831, was 3136. The parishes of Deal and Walmer, adjacent to Sandwich, and the villages of Ramsgate and Sarre, in the Isle of Thanet, are in the jurisdiction of the Cinque Port of Sandwich. In the parish of Deal the corporation of Sandwich has concurrent jurisdiction with

that of Deal, but this jurisdiction is only partially exercised. A part of the town wall is standing, and one of the gates, Fishergate, on the north side of the town, towards the bridge, which is a stone structure, with a swing-bridge in the middle, to admit the passage of vessels. St. Clement's church is a massive building, consisting of a nave and two aisles, a chancel, and a tower rising above the centre of the church. This tower is of Norman architecture, supported by four semi-circular arches with massive piers, and is by far the most ancient part of the edifice: it is built of Caen stone. The rest of the building, which is of later date, is built of flint boulders from the shore, sandstone, and Caen stone, probably from the ruins of the more ancient Norman church. There are an ancient octagonal font and some wooden stalls. St. Peter's church consisted originally of a nave, with two aisles and a chancel, but the fall of the steeple, in A.D. 1661, demolished the south aisle, which has never been rebuilt. The church appears to have been built of Caen stone, well squared and neatly joined; some portions built in this way still remain, but the remainder is built of fragments of the older structure, mixed with sandstone, Kentish rag, and flints from the shore; the upper part of the tower is of brick. St. Mary's has a nave, with north aisle and a chancel: it was rebuilt after the greater part of the church had been beaten down by the fall of the steeple, A.D. 1667, but includes some parts of

the more ancient structure. The steeple was built A.D. 1718, upon the south porch, and is of brick, with the upper part of wood. On the south side of the town is the hospital of St. Bartholomew, a charitable foundation of great antiquity. The chapel is a small neat building, of ancient date. The Guildhall is of the date of Elizabeth; the gaol, which is clean, airy, and well-arranged, was built about 10 years since. The Wesleyans and Independents have each a place of worship. There are a free grammar-school, founded in the time of Elizabeth, and some almshouses.

The business of the place consists chiefly in tanning leather and in sorting wool. Only small vessels can come up to the town. Some timber and iron are brought from the north of Europe; and corn, malt, flour, seeds, hops, fruit, and wool, are shipped, chiefly coastwise. The market-days are Wednesday and Saturday; the latter is a large corn-market, and there is a large cattle-market once a fortnight. There is a yearly fair.

The corporation, under the Municipal Reform Act, consists of four aldermen and twelve councillors. The municipal boundaries were not altered; and the borough was not to have a commission of the peace except on petition and grant. Sandwich returned two members to parliament from the 42nd year of Edward III. By the Boundary Act the parishes of Deal and Walmer were, for parliamentary purposes, added to it. The population of the

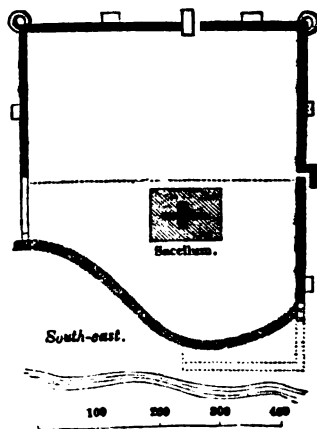
parliamentary borough, thus enlarged, was, in 1831, 12,183; the number of voters on the register, in 1834-5, was 934; in 1835-6, 841, besides those in Walmer, who were not included in the last return.

The living of St. Peter's is a rectory, of the clear yearly value of 144*l.*, with a glebe-house; those of St. Clement and St. Mary are vicarages, of the clear yearly value of 310*l.* and 117*l.* respectively; there is a glebe-house to St. Mary. All are in the diocese and arch-deaconry of Canterbury.

Richborough Castle, about a mile from Sandwich, stands on a small elevation, along the base of which the Stour flows, and about one mile in a direct line from its entrance into Pegwell Bay. It is, perhaps, the earliest Roman castle constructed in this island, having been formed, according to the most probable conjectures, in the reign of Claudius, and completed by Severus. It still retains the leading features of one of the most perfect of the stationary castles built by the Romans in England. The walls form a parallelogram, but the east wall has disappeared and probably fallen into the Stour. The area within the walls is five acres. The walls are flanked by projecting round towers at the angles, and by intermediate round towers. There is a large opening in the west wall, and a narrower one, the Porta Decumana, in the north wall. The foundations of the walls are laid with great care; and the walls were built of blocks of chalk and stone, and faced

on both sides with squared blocks of Portland or grit stone, banded at intervals with double rows of large flat tiles. The walls to the height of six feet are eleven feet three inches thick, above that height they are ten feet eight inches. The top of the wall is everywhere imperfect; its greatest height is twenty-three feet.

The basement of the Sacellum, or small temple for depositing the ensigns, forms an important feature in this castle; and in the walls are the traces of the four gates. The entrance through the north-east wall is by one of the two gates called by the Romans the Porta Principalis, and which became in after-times the postern gate. (King's *Munimenta Antiqua*, vol. ii. p. 10.) The Prætorian gate is supposed to have been on the side of the



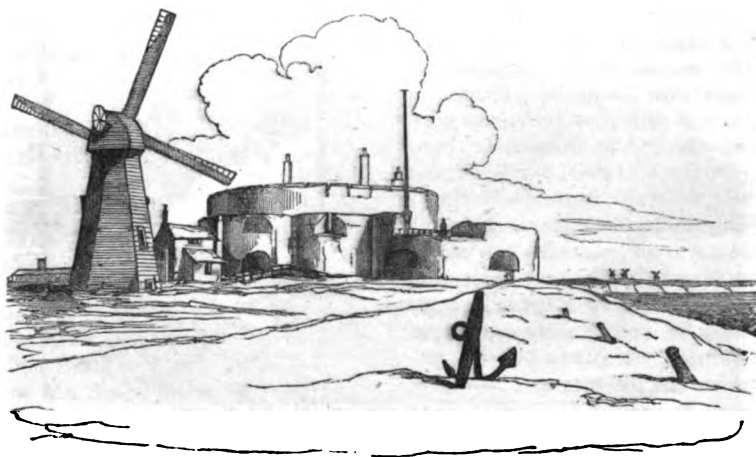
[Plan of Richborough Castle.]

slope towards the estuary which formerly bounded the side of the castle. The second principal gate was opposite the first principal gate or postern; and the Decuman gate and the Prætorian are presumed to have been nearly opposite.

Richborough (Ritupæ) in the time of the Romans was the usual place of communication with the Continent, and guarded one mouth of the channel which then insulated the Isle of Thanet.

DEAL is about four miles from Sandwich, by the turnpike-road: there is a road which runs nearer the sea past Sandown Castle. It is 18 miles south-east from Canterbury and 72 east-south-east from London. Sandown Castle receives its name from the Sand Downs,

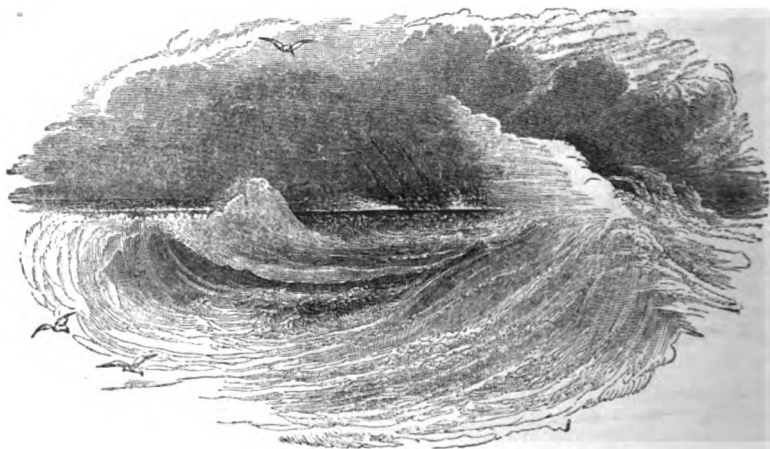
which extend five miles along the coast, and are on an average about a quarter of a mile broad. It was built in the reign of Henry VIII., as were Deal Castle and Walmer Castle, and the three form a defence for this part of the coast. Sandown Castle consists of a large round tower and outworks surrounded by a fosse, and on the side towards the sea is additionally defended by a battery. The Castles at Deal and Walmer are built on a similar plan; but the latter is the official residence of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, an appointment which is at present held by the Duke of Wellington, and on a vacancy is always given to the Prime Minister.



[Sandown Castle.]

Deal is situated close to the sea, on a bold open beach. The number of inhabitants in 1831 was 7268, who live for the most part in the three streets lying parallel to the beach, which, in distinction from the middle and upper parts, are called Lower Deal. By a decree of Henry III., in 1229, and by letters patent of the sixteenth year of Henry IV., the town is shown to have been at that time annexed to the Cinque Ports. It is at present a member of the town and port of Sandwich, as a Cinque Port; and with Sandwich returns one member to Parliament. A charter was granted by the 11th of William III. constituting it a borough, with a corporation consisting of a mayor, 12 jurats, 24 common-councilmen, a town-clerk, and recorder.

On the south side of Deal is the castle, erected in 1539 by Henry VIII., with a moat and a drawbridge. There is no harbour, but the fine roadstead called the Downs, between the shore and the Goodwin Sands, is a usual place of anchorage for vessels of all dimensions, of which occasionally four or five hundred are riding wind-bound, and with safety, except during heavy gales from the north and east, when some put into Ramsgate for greater security. The pilots of Deal have a high character as intrepid and excellent seamen in affording assistance to vessels in distress. The town is paved, lighted, and watched, and contains a custom-house, a naval storehouse, a naval and military hospital, and a gaol. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in boat-building, sail-making,



[The 'Goodwins.' From an Original Sketch.]



[Downs, near Dover.]

and other pursuits subservient to maritime business. Besides a church and chapel of ease, there are several Dissenting chapels, and a subscription school for ninety poor boys and girls. Markets are held on Tuesday and Friday, and two small fairs in April and October. Deal is the birthplace of Mrs. Elizabeth Carter, the learned translator of Epictetus.

A fixed lighthouse on the Goodwin Sands is now (August, 1841) in progress under the management and patent of Mr. Bush, civil engineer. It is said to be Mr. Bush's intention, in the erection of this light, to float and sink iron caissons of from 30 to 50 feet diameter, and to excavate the sand from the internal part of the caisson by the means

of air chambers, until he arrives at the chalk rock, in order to obtain a permanent and solid foundation. These caissons will be filled with concrete and masonry work, and upon this base a column of about 140 feet high, for the lighthouse, will be raised. A number of men are now at work preparing the first caisson, and, before the equinoctial gales come on, it is thought that there is every probability of securing a solid and permanent base. This important undertaking is regarded with great interest, not only by the maritime, but also by the scientific world, as being the means of preventing great loss of life and property.

From Deal there is a road through Walmer and Ringswold, to Dover, a

distance of about eight miles. From Walmer to Dover the coast consists of white chalk cliffs. Near the village of St. Margaret at Cliffe is the South Foreland Lighthouse. The nature of the country between Walmer and Dover is

shown in the engraving. On one side are the sea, the chalk cliffs of Calais, the high land at Boulogne ; with the town of Dover, lying below the Castle Hill, the valley towards Folkstone, and the one towards Canterbury.



CHAPTER IX.

LONDON TO CANTERBURY AND DOVER.

THE tourist has the choice of three different modes of travelling between London and Dover. He may either proceed by water, or by railway, or by the high-road through Canterbury. In the present case we shall pursue the latter course.

The Bricklayers' Arms, one mile from London Bridge, is the great point at which the coaches for all parts of Kent "pull up," whether they have originally started from Charing Cross or from Gracechurch Street. About three miles from this busy spot we enter Kent, at New Cross, passing over the Croydon Railway, which is here carried through a cutting 75 feet deep. Within less than a mile is Deptford, which is a parish within the limits of the parliamentary borough of Greenwich, and has already been noticed (Chap. V.) Crossing the Ravensbourne we are soon upon Blackheath, which has been the scene of many remarkable transactions in our history. In 1011, after they had taken Canterbury, the Danes encamped on Blackheath; and so did the rebels under Wat Tyler in 1381. In 1400 Henry V. met Manuel Palæologus, emperor of Constantinople, who came to solicit assistance against Bajazet, emperor of the Turks.

The mayor, aldermen, and citizens of London here met Henry V. returning from the victory of Agincourt. It was customary for the citizens to meet the king or illustrious visitors from the continent and to escort them from Blackheath into London with much pageantry. In 1416, Sigismund, emperor of Germany, who came to negotiate a peace between England and France, was received with great pomp and ceremony on Blackheath by Henry V. In 1450, Jack Cade and his insurgent followers encamped on the heath; and two years afterwards Henry VI. encamped here, while his Lancasterian opponent Richard, duke of York, encamped at Dartford Brent. In 1471 the bastard Falconbridge encamped with an army of 17,000 men, which was defeated by the citizens in an assault on London; and in 1495 the Cornish insurgents, who were encamped on the same spot, were surprised and defeated. In 1519 the pope's legate and the French embassy met on the heath with great state. It is finely adapted as a place of encampment, or for the display of a procession, and from its elevation commands admirable views of Greenwich, the river, and the metropolis. There are many excellent residences

belonging to the opulent merchants and others of London. The hamlet is principally in the parish of Greenwich, but it extends into the parishes of Lewisham, Lea, and Charlton. The new church on Blackheath Hill cost about 4,500*l.* and will contain 1,200 persons. It is in the earlier pointed style, and the projection of the apsis between the two towers is considered as a very successful architectural novelty. The general effect is considerably marred from the edifice being almost entirely constructed of yellow brick. Morden College, an institution for decayed merchants founded by Sir John Morden, a Turkey merchant, who died in 1708, is at the eastern extremity of the heath. It is a large brick building with two wings; and the inmates, who cannot be admitted under 60 years of age, have apartments, dine at a common table, and receive 20*l.* a year each.

Shooter's Hill, eight miles from London Bridge and three from Blackheath, is above 440 feet high. It is an insulated mass of London clay, and on the summit stands Severndroog Castle, a triangular structure, with three turrets, which command a most extensive prospect of the surrounding country, and of the metropolis and the shipping on the Thames. The edifice was built to commemorate the reduction, in 1756, of Severndroog, a strong fort on an island near Bombay. The top of the building is 482 feet above the level of the sea. There are many good houses in the neighbourhood of Shooter's Hill.

Five miles from Shooter's Hill is Crayford, which derives its name from an ancient ford over the river Cray, a little before it falls into the Darent. The British King Vortimer was completely defeated at Crayford by Hengist. There are several places in the neighbourhood which also take their name from the river Cray. There are St. Mary Cray, St. Paul's Cray, Foot's Cray, and North Cray. St. Mary Cray had formerly a market, but it was discontinued in 1703, in consequence of the market-house having been blown down. The river Cray is famous for trout. Foot's Cray, the residence of Lord Bexley, is an elegant stone edifice, situated on an eminence which slopes towards an artificial branch of the Cray, designed as an imitation of a natural river, and which flows through the grounds. The Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry has also a seat here; and there are several other mansions in the vicinity of the Crays. In the neighbourhood of the above places are a number of artificial caverns dug out of the chalk, the origin and uses of which have not a little puzzled antiquarians, some of whom have asserted that they were employed as granaries by the ancient Britons.

We next reach Dartford, which is fifteen miles from London Bridge. It is on the river Darent, from which it gets its name (in Saxon Darentford, in Domesday Tarenteford), about three miles from its junction with the Thames. The great insurrection

under Wat Tyler, in the reign of Richard II., broke out here. The parish contains 4150 acres, and had, in 1831, a population of 4715, about one-tenth agricultural. The town is in a narrow valley, and the principal street is on the line of the Dover road. The church is near the east end of the town, close to the bridge over the Darent. The ancient burying-ground is at some distance eastward from the church, on a hill which overlooks the town; a new burial-ground was consecrated a few years since. There are several dissenting places of worship. The trade of Dartford is considerable: there are chalk-pits near the town, and corn, oil, powder, and paper mills in the neighbourhood on the river Darent; also a large iron foundry and manufactory of machinery.

The first paper-mill erected in this country was at Dartford; it was built by Sir John Spielman, a German, who introduced the manufacture, and stood on the site of the present powder-mills: the first mill established in England for rolling and slitting iron was also near Dartford. Barges from the Thames come up to the wharf below the town. The market is on Saturday; and there is a yearly fair. The trade in corn is considerable. The living of Dartford is a vicarage in the diocese and archdeaconry of Rochester, of the clear yearly value of 534*l.* with a glebe-house.

Near the town are the ruins of a nunnery, founded A.D. 1371, by Ed-

ward III., for Augustine nuns, but afterwards occupied by Dominican nuns. At the dissolution the prioress and several of the nuns were of some of the best and most ancient families of the county; the revenues were then 400*l.* 8*s.* gross, or 350*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.* clear. The buildings were occupied by Henry VIII., and, during her progress in Kent, by Queen Elizabeth, as a royal residence. The present remains are of brick, and consist of a large embattled gateway, with some adjacent buildings, now occupied as a farmhouse: the gardens and orchards occupied 12 acres, and were surrounded by a stone wall yet entire. There is an almshouse at Dartford, formerly an hospital for lepers.

NORTH FLEET, five miles from Dartford, is situated on a lofty chalk hill, and commands extensive prospects, embracing the Thames and the opposite shores of Essex. There are dockyards in which merchant ships of the largest class have been built. Lime is burnt in the neighbourhood and gun-flints are manufactured; and there is an establishment for making Roman cement. The church is spacious, and contains some interesting monuments.

Gravesend, Rochester, and Chatham, which may be reached from London with more ease by the river, have already been noticed (Chap. VII). The road does not pass through Chatham, but turns to the right.

GADSHILL, between Gravesend and Rochester, is the spot where Sir

John Falstaff (Henry IV. Part I.) and his companions attacked the Sandwich carriers and auditors carrying money to the King's exchequer. It was notorious for robberies before the time of Shakspeare, but about the period when the above-mentioned play was written, it was the resort of a band of robbers of more than usual daring. (Pictorial Shakspeare.) It was subsequently noted for the robberies on seamen who had just received their pay. In 1656 the Danish ambassador was robbed here.

SITTINGBOURNE, 11 miles from Rochester and 40 from London, consists chiefly of one main street. There are some good inns, and the prosperity of the place depends in a great degree on the passage of travellers between London and Dover. The church is a spacious edifice, rebuilt, with the exception of the tower and the external walls, since A.D. 1762, when it was accidentally burnt. It has some curious windows of decorated character, and some fine ones of perpendicular date. Queen Elizabeth granted, in two successive charters, a weekly market and two fairs; she also incorporated the town, and granted the privilege of returning members to parliament. Communication with London is maintained by hoys from a quay on Milton creek in this parish. The weekly market has been long discontinued, the fairs remain, and the other privileges were never exercised. The present market is held monthly. The living is a

vicarage in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, of the clear yearly value of 212*l.* with a glebe-house.

OSPRINGE, six miles from Sittingbourne, was occupied by the Romans. It is situated on a branch of Faversham creek, and contains gunpowder works and barracks for infantry. There were formerly two hospitals, one founded by Henry III. and the other was for lepers: some remains of the former still exist.

FAVERSHAM is only a mile from the high road at Ospringe. It is on a stream running into the East Swale, and just to the left of the road to Dover, 47 miles from London Bridge. It appears to have been a place of some note before the time of Stephen, who built and endowed here an abbey for Cluniac monks, in which himself, his queen Matilda, and his eldest son Eustace of Boulogne, were buried. This abbey was at the time of the dissolution in the hands of the Benedictine order; its revenue was 355*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* gross, or 286*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* clear. Some portions of the outer walls remain. At the dissolution the remains of King Stephen were thrown into the river, for the sake of the leaden coffin in which they were contained.

The parish of Faversham comprehends 2270 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 4429, less than one-tenth agricultural. The population of the adjacent parish of Preston, a village which joins Faversham Town, was at

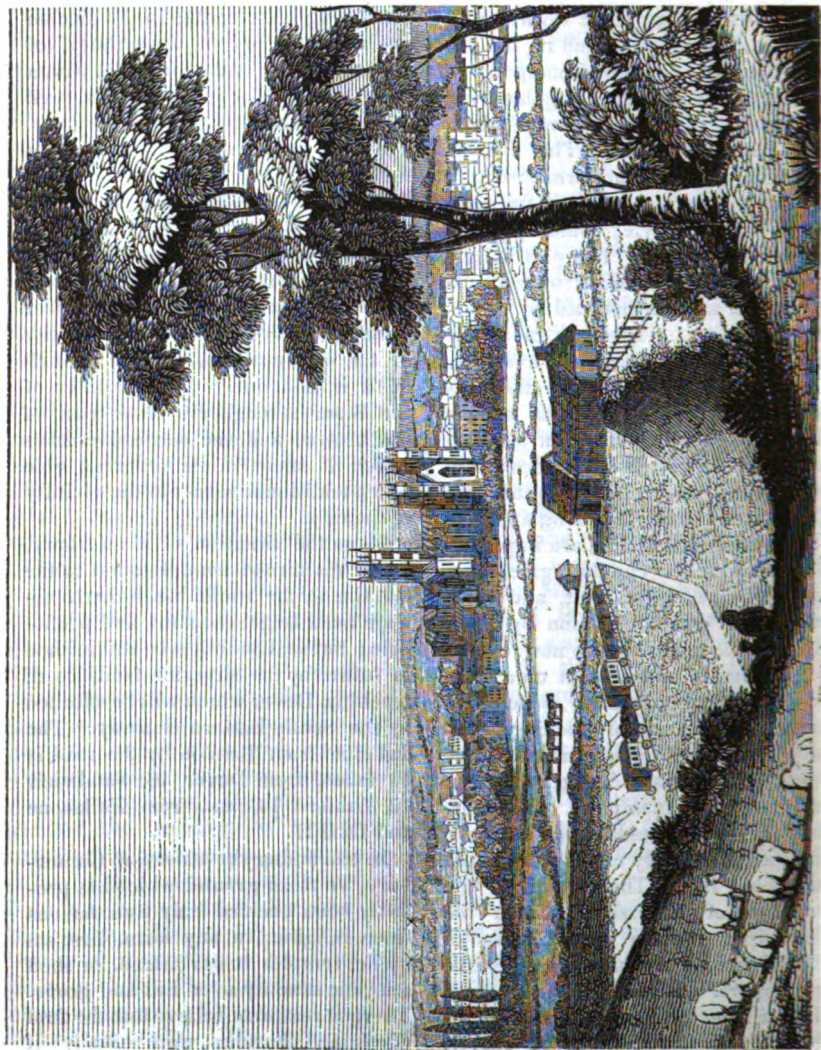
the same time 665. The town, which has been much improved in the last half century, consists principally of four streets forming an irregular cross, and having the guildhall and market-place in the centre. The church, which is a large cruciform structure of flint, has some portions in the decorated English style; other portions are of later date. There is a light tower at the west end, crowned with pinnacles, and surmounted by an octagonal spire. There are an assembly-room and a theatre. Faversham is a port, and has an excise-office and custom-house. The creek or arm of the Swale on which the town stands is navigable for vessels of 150 tons; several coasting vessels belong to the port. Coals from the north of England, and timber from the Baltic, are imported. The exports are chiefly agricultural produce, corn, hops, fruit, and wool, which are sent to London by hoys. There is no manufacture now, except of gunpowder and cement on a small scale. The oyster fishery, which is an important branch of industry, employs about 250 adult males. The oyster fishermen and dredgermen form an incorporated company. The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday; there are a monthly cattle-market and an annual fair. The council of the borough of Faversham, under the Municipal Reform Act, consists of four aldermen or jurats and twelve councillors. It has a separate jurisdiction from the county, being a member of the Cinque-Port of Dover.

The living is a vicarage in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, of the clear yearly value of 342*l.*, with a glebe-house. There is a well-endowed grammar-school.

At the point where CANTERBURY stands, the valley in which the river Stour flows is about a mile in width, and the hills by which it is bounded on both sides are of very moderate height. Numerous rivulets, however, descend from these to the lower ground, and contribute to the fertility of the hop-gardens, in which much of it is laid out. The windings of the Stour through the lower part of the hollow, and the successive islets which it forms in its progress, give much additional beauty to the vicinity of the city.

From the situation of Canterbury, on the main road from London to the Continent, the traffic has hitherto always been large, constant, and profitable; but will doubtless be diminished in future by the superior facilities of reaching Dover which will be afforded by the South-Eastern Railway. The distance from London by the road is 56 miles, from Dover 16, Sandwich 12, Ashford 14, and from Folkestone and Deal 17.

In traversing the streets of Canterbury, we tread ground which has probably been deemed holy and famous since religion, in any form, first set up her temples in our island, or shed a mystic sanctity over hill and grove. There is reason to believe that the first Christian churches were usually if



[Canterbury, from the Whitechapel Railway.]

not always, planted on those sites which superstition had previously consecrated in the hearts of the people. Besides, it can hardly be doubted that Canterbury was a Roman station; and, if so, it was most likely a British town before the arrival of the Romans. The position of the place would point it out for a settlement on the first occupation of the country,—situated especially, as it was, in the district that was probably first seized upon and peopled. The barbarian rites of Druidism, shadowing them with gloom and fear, may therefore have first given distinction to the spots on which now rise the cathedral and the old church of St. Martin,—monuments of the religion of purity, and peace, and hope. But if the vision of these primitive times is dim and uncertain, there was at least a long subsequent period during which Canterbury stood in celebrity and glory among the foremost of the cities of the earth. The history of a great part of the middle ages is so nearly a blank, or at least is marked by so few events that interest us in the present day, that we are apt to form a very inadequate conception of the length of that tract of time. The histories of Greece and Rome have been familiarized to our minds in such amplitude of detail, that we make a sufficient allowance for the space in the chronology of the world over which they extend; and for a similar reason we are still less given to contract within too narrow bounds our estimate of the period comprehended

under what may be strictly called modern history. The Reformation, for instance, seems to us now a very old event; and the time that has since elapsed, a long stretch of years. It appears like all the history we have, with the exception of a portion hardly worth attention, since the dissolution of the western empire. Yet that overlooked portion is in reality more than three times as long as the other which we allow almost exclusively to fill our imaginations. If we are, therefore, to take a full view of what Canterbury has been, we must carry our contemplation back over not only her three last centuries of comparative obscurity and decay, but her longer preceding period of renown and splendour. At the Reformation, the first thronging of the world's multitudes to the shrine of Becket was an older event than the Reformation is now; and from the Reformation back to the arrival of St. Augustine was three times as long a retrospect as it is from the present day to the Reformation.

The ancient British name of Canterbury seems to have been *Durwhern*, which the Romans changed into *Durovernum*, a term formed from the British name, by smoothing it down and giving it a Latin termination. *Durovernum*, like *Durobreuvum*, the Roman name of Rochester, is made up in part of the British *Dwor*, water, but beyond this the etymology can hardly be traced. The town stands upon the banks of the river Stour: indeed a considerable part of it is built on an

island formed by the separation of that stream into two branches; and the *Dur* of Durovernum may be concluded to have expressed a reference to this position. The Stour rises south-west from Canterbury, and, on leaving the town, passes on in a north-east direction, till it falls into the sea, after having formed the greater portion of the south-western boundary of the Isle of Thanet. By the Saxons, Canter-

bury was called *Caer-Cant*, or the city of Kent: whence we have *Cantuaria*, and *Canterbury*.

Ever since the arrival of St. Augustine, in 597, Canterbury has been the ecclesiastical capital of England. It was, however, before this period, the chief town of the Saxon kingdom of Kent, which had been founded about the middle of the preceding century by Hengist. Ethelbert, the Kentish



[West Gate, Canterbury.]

King, resided here when Augustine and his monks came over; and the missionaries naturally fixed their headquarters at the seat of the court. The city lost its secular pre-eminence on the consolidation of all England into one kingdom in the beginning of the ninth century; but the revolutions of twelve hundred years have left it still the metropolis of the national church.

Like most of our other considerable towns, Canterbury was anciently surrounded with walls, the remains of which still exist. All the gates have now been taken down except Westgate, being that which forms the entrance into the city from London, and terminates the principal street, at this part called St. Peter's Street. From this point the street, taking the name of High Street in its middle part, and of St. George's Street beyond that, runs through the heart of the town in a south-easterly direction, forming part of the great road from London to Dover. The old Roman road from Dover across the island to Chester seems to have taken a line nearly parallel to this, but between two and three hundred yards to the south of it, where its course is still marked by the street called Watling Street, part of which is without and part within the walls. Besides the principal branch of the river which skirts the north-west part of the city wall being crossed by a bridge at Westgate, another branch of it runs up through the western portion of the town, being traversed by another

bridge called Eastbridge, where it meets the High Street. Parallel to the southern portion of this latter branch, and a little to the east of it, lies the street called Stour Street, thus dividing the southern half of the city into two nearly equal quadrants or quarters of a circle. Among the other principal streets are Castle Street, to the east of this and nearly parallel to it, and Burgate Street, to the north of St. George's Street, and extending in the same direction with it and High Street. There are numerous short and narrow lanes in all parts of the city, one of which, Mercery Lane, on the north side of High Street, is traditionally said to have been the usual resort of the numerous pilgrims who, in ancient times, were wont to throng from all parts of the world to Canterbury, in order to pay their devotions at the various shrines in the cathedral, and especially at that of Thomas à Becket, for some ages the most popular saint in the Romish calendar. Thus Chaucer sings,—

*"And specially from every shire's end
Of Engle-land to Canterbury they wend,
The holy blissful martyr for to seek,
That them hath holpen when that they were sick."*

In this lane several of the adjacent tenements seem anciently to have formed only one house, or large inn. But the same appearances present themselves also in other parts of the city; and doubtless there were large inns elsewhere as well as in this short lane, which, if it had been entirely devoted to that purpose, certainly

could not have nearly lodged the whole crowd of pious strangers which in those days Canterbury usually contained.

Mercery Lane, however, may probably have anciently been the favourite and most honourable place of resort for this description of visitors, as being the avenue leading to the cathedral and its holy precinct. These venerable buildings occupy nearly the whole of the north-eastern quarter of the city, forming a large enclosure, the entrance to which, called the Precinct Gate, is at the termination of Mercery Lane, although a more spacious approach to it has lately been formed by a new opening from the High Street.

At the south-west extremity of the city stand the ruins of Canterbury Castle, a structure which when entire seems to have a good deal resembled the Castle of Rochester, of which we lately gave a notice. The great tower, or Donjon Keep, is the principal part now remaining. A little to the east, and also adjacent to the city wall, is a considerable conical elevation called the Dungil, or Dane John Hill, which, in all probability, was also formerly the site of a castle or other place of strength. The mount and the surrounding ground, however, have now been planted and converted into public walks which are much frequented by the inhabitants.

The entire circuit of the walls is about a mile and three-quarters in length, the space which they enclose

forming an irregular circle. But the suburbs extend to a considerable distance beyond the walls, both in the line of the High Street, and to the north-east and the south-west. Some of the most interesting of the antiquities of Canterbury lie without the walls, especially the extensive ruins of St. Augustine's monastery, which are to the north of the Dover road, and the church of St. Martin beyond them. The monastery will be afterwards noticed more at length. St. Martin's church, which is built of Roman brick, is supposed by some antiquarians to have been erected so early as the second century, and to have been one of the churches of the British Christians in the times of the Roman government. It is stated by Bede to have been standing when Augustine came over, and to have been the first church in which he and his monks performed the services of religion.

It is certain that, during the Roman domination in Great Britain, Christianity had been generally established in the southern parts of the island, which were inhabited by a mixed population of Britons and Romans. Many of the Romans who came over to colonize the country after its conquest in the reign of the Emperor Claudius were, no doubt, Christians; and the general conversion of the natives within the subjugated territory most probably took place in the first or second century. It is most likely, also, that it was in part effected by the agency of missionaries who visited

the island expressly for that purpose ; although but little confidence can be placed in the story told by the old monkish historians about the preachers that were sent over by Pope Eleutherius to a British king of the name of Lucius, who is said to have flourished before the close of the second century, and to have been the first prince of his nation who received the new faith. No doubt can be entertained that churches were built in many parts of the country in the course of the three centuries during which it enjoyed peace and security under the Roman protection. Whatever buildings, or remains of buildings, are now found, which bear the impress of Christian civilization, and cannot be assigned to a date subsequent to the establishment of the Saxons, must have been erected during this era of tranquillity, when letters and the arts probably flourished to a degree which they scarcely again attained in the course of the next thousand years. The Saxon invasion swept away all this, by rolling over the country a tide not only of savage ignorance but of war and slaughter, which desolated a great part of the island for a century and a half. The reign of anything like civilization did, not recommence till towards the close of the sixth century. About this time, Ethelbert, king of Kent, married Bertha, the daughter of the French king Charibert ; and out of this event arose the first introduction of Christianity into Saxon Britain. It is supposed to have

been on the application of Bertha, who was herself a convert, and a lady of great piety and virtue, that Pope Gregory I. was induced to send over from Rome the celebrated Augustine and his forty followers, who arrived in the Isle of Thanet in the year 597, and were soon after permitted by Ethelbert to take up their residence in Canterbury, the capital of his dominions.

Bede tells us that there was already a building in the eastern quarter of the city, which long before had been used as a Christian church ; and that this edifice was given by the king, after his conversion, to Augustine and his companions. There is every reason to believe that the church in question stood on the site of the present cathedral. It may have been built four or five centuries before, and must, at the least, have been two or three hundred years old. Having fallen into decay, it was enlarged and repaired under the direction of Augustine, who had by this time been consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury ; and who, having dedicated it to Christ, made it his cathedral. It hence derives its proper designation of Christ Church.

The building thus founded, or rather restored and amplified, by Augustine, subsisted till the year 938, by which time, however, partly in consequence of a recent attack of the Danes, it had become little better than a ruin. The walls, we are told, were uneven, and in some places were broken down, and the roof was in so

threatening a state that the church could not be safely entered. Odo, who was then archbishop, bestowed considerable cost in the reparation of the fabric; but, in 1011, the Danes, in a new attack, burned down the roof which he had erected, and left only the walls standing. After Canute came to the throne, however, in 1017, its restoration was once more effected, the king having, it is said, contributed munificently to the expense. But the new disturbances, which arose after his decease, and especially the neglect and dilapidation to which it was exposed during the unavailing resistance of the Saxon Archbishop Stigand to the Norman Conqueror, had again reduced the structure to such a state, when Lanfranc succeeded to the see in 1070, that this prelate determined to rebuild it almost from the foundation. There is reason to believe, however, that even in this, the most complete re-edification which the church had yet sustained, the ancient walls were not entirely thrown down.

Lanfranc lived to complete his design so far as that the cathedral in his time was once more rendered fit for the services of religion, and presented the appearance of a finished building. Considerable additions were made to it, however, by Anselm and others of his successors; and even some parts which Lanfranc had built are recorded to have been taken down not long after his death, and re-erected in a different style. Conrad, a prior of the adjoin-

ing monastery, in particular, made such improvements on the choir, that it is stated to have been for a long time after generally known by his name.

But on the 5th of September, 1174, an accidental fire, which commenced in some houses on the south side of the church, and was carried by a high wind towards the sacred building, having seized upon the roof, soon reduced the whole once more to the bare walls. "The leads," says the old chronicler Gervase, who was a monk of Canterbury, and flourished in the thirteenth century, "were melted, and the timber-work and painted ceiling all on fire fell down into the choir, where the stalls of the monks added fresh fuel in abundance." He also speaks of the walls, and especially the pillars, having been much scorched and injured; but it does not appear that they were actually thrown down by the violence of the flames. A great sensation was excited by this calamity, not only throughout England, but the whole of Christendom. The murder, or, as it was deemed, the martyrdom of the famous Thomas à Becket, which took place in the cathedral of Canterbury on the 29th of December, 1170, had given an extraordinary sanctity to the building, and attracted to it crowds of pilgrims from every country of Europe. The celebrity and reverential estimation which it had thus acquired soon made the funds necessary for its restoration pour in abundantly. The most distin-

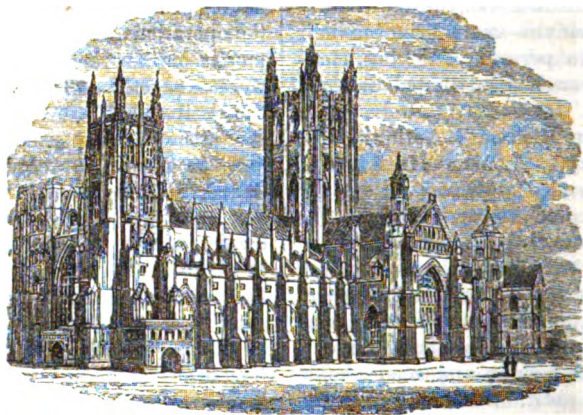
guished personages of the age eagerly offered their aid—many bringing their oblations in person. The king, Henry II., himself contributed largely. "In 1179," says Mr. Battely, in his additions to 'Somner's Antiquities of Canterbury,' "Louis VII., king of France, landed at Dover, where our king expected his arrival. On the 23rd of August these two kings came to Canterbury, with a great train of nobility of both nations, and were received by the archbishop and his provincials the prior and convent, with great honour and unspeakable joy. The oblations of gold and silver made by the French were incredible. The king came in manner and habit of a pilgrim—was conducted to the tomb of St. Thomas in solemn procession—where he offered his cup of gold and a royal precious stone, with a yearly rental of 100 muids (hogsheads) of wine, for ever, to the convent, confirming his grant by royal charter, under his seal delivered in form."

The rebuilding of the cathedral was commenced soon after the fire, and, the means being thus liberally supplied, was carried on for some years with great spirit. The direction of the work was entrusted to a French architect, William of Sens, who, however, only superintended it for the first four years, having then received an accidental injury which obliged him to relinquish his office. He was succeeded by an Englishman. In 1183, however, the stream of offerings

having probably somewhat diminished, the operations were suspended by the monks, on the pretence that their funds were exhausted. The expedient had the desired effect. Contributions to the pious work poured in immediately in almost unprecedented abundance; and the receivers were enabled not only to complete their original design, but to add to it new features of magnificence and splendour. The body of the cathedral soon stood once more in a finished state; but many additions and alterations were made long after the main part of the work had been thus accomplished. In fact, the building might be said to be still only in progress when the Reformation broke out, and the king's mandate, on the dissolution of the religious houses, put a stop to its further decoration or enlargement, and left it in all material respects in the state in which we now see it.

From this detail it appears that the present cathedral stands mainly on the same foundation with the ancient British church which Augustine found in Canterbury on his arrival at the end of the sixth century, nor is it altogether impossible that some portion of that primitive edifice may still remain in the pile as it now exists. It is acknowledged on all hands that part of Archbishop Lanfranc's cathedral is still standing; and the vaults under the choir appear to be of a style of architecture anterior at any rate to the Norman Conquest.

The cathedral of Canterbury is built



[Canterbury Cathedral].

in the usual form of a cross, having, however, two transepts. Buttresses rising into pinnacles are ranged along the walls both of the nave and the transepts; and a square tower of great beauty ascends from the intersection of the western transept and the nave. Two other towers also crown the extremities of the west front; that to the north, which had been long in a ruinous state, and the upper part of which was removed many years ago, was taken down recently from the foundation, for the purpose of being restored.

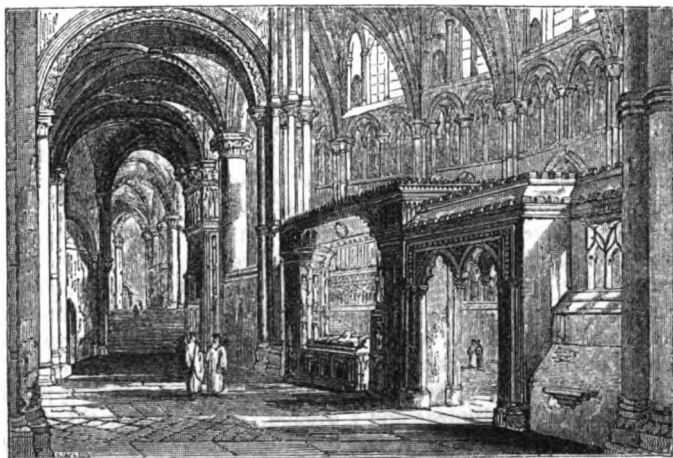
The cathedral is very spacious. The following are its principal dimensions:—the length of the whole building from east to west, measured in the interior, is 514 feet; of which the choir occupies not less than 180 feet, being an extent unequalled by

that of any other choir in England. The breadth of the nave with its side aisles is 71 feet; and its height 80 feet. The larger transept is 154, the smaller 124 feet, in length from north to south. The height of the great central tower, called the Bell-Harry steeple, is 235 feet; and that of the Oxford and Arundel steeples, at the north and south extremities of the west front, about 130 feet.

It is remarked of this cathedral, by Mr. Hasted, in his 'History of the County of Kent,' that, "notwithstanding the different ages in which the several parts of it have been built, and the various kinds of architecture singular to each,—no one part corresponding with that adjoining to it,—yet there seems nothing unsightly or disagreeable in the view of it; on the contrary, the whole together has a

most venerable and pleasing effect." This observation is made in reference to the external aspect of the building, which, however, with the exception of the fine central tower, is not distinguished by any very extraordinary beauty or magnificence. The west front, so highly decorated in some of our other cathedrals, is here extremely plain. The interior, however, from the vast extent of the perspective,—now, since the removal of the organ to a side gallery, embracing the whole length of the nave and choir,—and from the unusual elevation of the ceiling, has a very grand effect. The ranges of tall windows on each side pour in the light in abundant streams between the lofty arches, so that, as the visitor moves forward, everything around opens upon him in its full

dimensions. The view upward, from under the great central tower, which is open to the height of above 200 feet, and lighted by successive tiers of windows all around, may well be conceived to be exceedingly imposing. Mr. Gostling, in his 'Walk in and about the City of Canterbury,' relates the following instance of the admiration which he once saw excited by the proportions of this tower:—"Many years ago I had the pleasure of taking a walk with an eminent builder in this part of our cathedral. The person was Mr. Strong, son of him who was master-mason at St. Paul's in London during the whole construction of that justly-admired fabric; brought up under his father to the same business, and his successor in the works of the Royal Hospital at



[Interior of Canterbury Cathedral.]

Greenwich. He could hardly be prejudiced in favour of the Gothic taste, and was undoubtedly a competent judge how strength and beauty were properly considered in works of such magnificence. When he came to make his observations here, and especially in the upper works, I was presently convinced that an artist sees with other eyes than they do who are not such ; and the eagerness of every step he took in examining and noting down the proportions of what he saw, with his passionate exclamation at my not being then able to satisfy him who was the designer of that stately tower,—in one of the galleries whereof we were standing and admiring it,—showed sufficiently how worthy he thought this forgotten architect of all the honour that could be paid to so exalted a genius." This tower was built about the end of the fifteenth century.

It would require far more space than we can afford to describe at length all the different parts and ornaments of the cathedral which are interesting either from their merit as productions of art, or from the historical associations with which they are connected. We can only mention shortly a few of the more remarkable. Among these is the ancient stone screen at the entrance to the choir, the date of which is supposed to be the early part of the fourteenth century. It presents a rich display of Gothic sculpture ; and among the figures by which it is adorned are six kings wearing crowns,

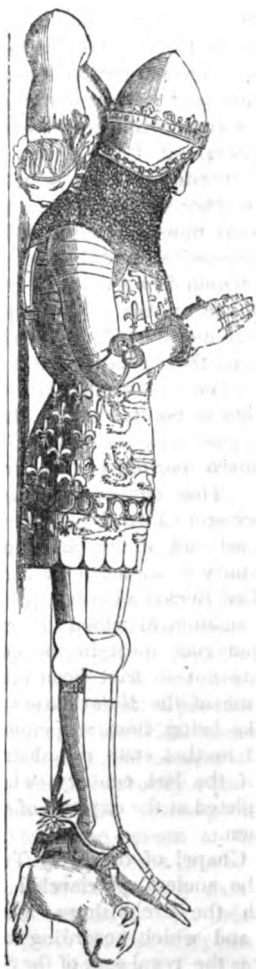
and holding in their hands five of them globes, and the sixth a church. The ancient stalls of the choir were removed in 1734, when the present were substituted in their place. Some parts of the ornamental work are supposed to have been executed by the celebrated Gibbons, by whom the admirable carvings of the fittings in the choir of St. Paul's were cut. Behind the choir, instead of the Lady Chapel, or chapel dedicated to the Virgin, which usually occupies this place in other cathedrals, is the chapel of the Holy Trinity, erected about 1184 in honour of St. Thomas à Becket, and long the most attractive part of the church, as containing his shrine. " This shrine," says Stow, " was builded about a man's height, all of stone, then upwards of timber plain ; within was a chest of iron, containing the bones of Thomas Becket, skull and all, with the wound of his death, and the piece of his skull laid in the same wound. The timber-work of this shrine, on the outside, was covered with plates of gold, damasked with gold wire, which ground of gold was again covered with jewels of gold, as rings, ten or twelve cramped with gold wire into the said ground of gold, many of those rings having stones in them, brooches, images, angels, precious stones, and great pearls." Hither, in 1220, the body of the Saint was removed from the crypt underground, where it had till then been deposited ; the Pope's legate, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Rheims,

and divers other bishops and abbots, bearing the coffin on their shoulders, amidst a display of all that was most gorgeous and imposing in the pomp and splendours of the ancient ritual. The king himself, Henry III., was present. The expenditure of Stephen Langton, the archbishop, is said to have been so profuse on this occasion, that he left a debt upon the revenues of the see which was not discharged till the time of his fourth successor. The cost, however, was in time amply repaid. Becket's shrine continued to draw an immense revenue of gifts to the church as long as the old religion lasted. Erasmus, who was admitted to a sight of the treasure deposited in the sacred chamber a short time before the Reformation, tells us, that under a coffin of wood, enclosing another of gold, which was drawn up from its place by ropes and pulleys, he beheld an amount of riches the value of which he could not estimate. Gold, he says, was the meanest thing to be seen; the whole place shone and glittered with the rarest and most precious jewels, most of which were of an extraordinary size, some being larger than the egg of a goose. At the dissolution, Henry VIII. seized upon all this wealth. Stow says, that "the spoil in gold and precious stones filled two great chests, one of which six or seven strong men could do no more than convey out of the church at once." One of the precious stones, called the Regal of France, which had been presented by Louis VII. on his

visit to the church, as mentioned above, in 1179, he set and wore as a thumb-ring. At the same time, he ordered the remains of Becket to be burned, and the ashes scattered to the winds. The bones of St. Dunstan and St. Anselm, which were also preserved in the cathedral of Canterbury, were probably treated in the same way. The only trace of the shrine of the martyr that now remains is afforded by the pavement around the spot where it stood, which is worn down by the knees of the crowds of worshippers that, during more than three centuries, offered here their oblations and their prayers. The spot, we may here mention, which is pointed out as that on which Becket was assassinated, is in the northern portion of the western transept. That part of the church is on this account called the Martyrdom. At the east end of the chapel of the Holy Trinity is another of a circular form, called Becket's Crown, probably from the manner in which the ribs of the arched roof meet in the centre. It appears not to have been finished at the time of the Reformation; and the works being then suspended, it remained in that state till about the middle of the last century, when it was completed at the expense of a private citizen.

In the Chapel of the Holy Trinity stands the ancient patriarchal chair in which the archbishops are enthroned, and which, according to tradition, was the regal seat of the Saxon kings of Kent. It is formed of three

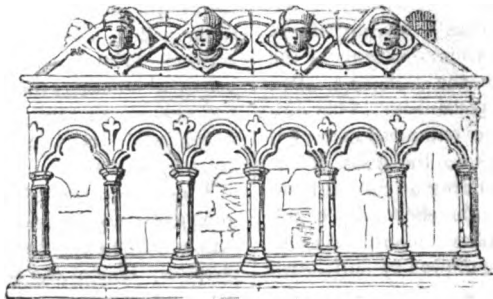
[Effigy of Edward the Black Prince. From his Tomb in Canterbury Cathedral.]



pieces of grey marble, cut in panels, the under part being solid, like that of a seat cut out of a rock. In this chapel also, among other monuments, is that of the Black Prince, still in wonderful preservation after the lapse of nearly four centuries and a half. On a handsome sarcophagus of grey marble, richly sculptured with coats of arms and other ornaments, lies the figure of the warrior in copper gilt, with his face displayed, but the rest of his body cased in armour. The sword, which had at one time been hung by his girdle, now lies loose by his side. Covering the whole is a wooden embattled canopy, and suspended over this are some of the actual weapons and other armour worn by the Prince:—his gauntlets, his helmet and crest, a surcoat of velvet elaborately adorned with gilding and embroidery, and the scabbard of his dagger, displaying the arms of England and France. It is commonly said that the weapon itself was taken away by Oliver Cromwell; but this tradition has probably arisen merely from its having disappeared in the civil confusions of Cromwell's time. The shield of the Prince hangs on a pillar near the head of the tomb. Among the other tombs in this the most sacred part of the church, are that of Henry IV. and his second wife Queen Jane of Navarre, and those of Archbishop Courtney, Cardinal Chatillon (of the Coligny family), and Cardinal Pole. In other parts of the church are the monuments of Archbishops Chichele,

Bourchier, Walter, Peckham, Warham, Ludbury, and many other personages connected with it in ancient times. The following cut is a representation of the sarcophagus assigned to Archbishop Theobald.

A very curious part of the cathedral is what is called the Undercroft, being the crypt over which the choir is raised. It is undoubtedly the most ancient part of the building; and as the architecture appears to be Saxon,



[Sarcophagus, assigned to Archbishop Theobald, at Canterbury.]

it is supposed to have been part of the older church left standing by Lanfranc. The walls are perfectly destitute of ornament, and everything presents the aspect of the most venerable antiquity. Of the pillars, some are round, others twisted, and neither in shafts nor capitals are there two of them alike. The circumference of most of the shafts is about four feet, and the height of shaft, plinth, and capital only six feet and a half. From these spring semi-circular arches, making a vaulted roof of the height of fourteen feet. The portion of this crypt under the west end of the choir was long in the possession of a congregation of Calvinists, which originally consisted of refugees driven from the Netherlands by the persecutions of the Duke of Alva, in the reign

of our Edward VI., and afterwards increased by a number of French Huguenots, who sought an asylum in this country on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. They were principally silk-weavers; and their numbers were at one time very considerable, but they latterly greatly diminished. Their place of meeting for divine worship in the cathedral is said to have been granted to them by Queen Elizabeth.

There still remain in several of the windows of the church some fine specimens of ancient painted glass; but the productions of this most fragile of the arts, with which it was formerly very richly adorned, were in great part mercilessly destroyed during the fanatic fury of the seventeenth century. A magnificent window in the northern wing of the western transept,

in particular, suffered severely. The relation of its demolition has been given by the person who was himself most active in the work—an individual of the name of Richard Culmer (but more commonly called “Blue Dick”), who, on the recommendation of the Mayor of Canterbury, was appointed by the House of Commons one of the six preachers in the cathedral, after the abolition of episcopacy. This zealot writes, “The commissioners fell presently to work on the great idolatrous window standing on the left hand as you go up into the choir; for which window some affirm many thousand pounds have been offered by outlandish papists. In that window was now the picture of God the Father, and of Christ, besides a large crucifix, and the picture of the Holy Ghost in the form of a dove, and of the twelve apostles. And in that window were seven large pictures of the Virgin Mary, in seven several glorious appearances: as of the angels lifting her into heaven, and the sun, moon, and stars under her feet; and every picture had an inscription under it, beginning with *Gaude, Maria*; as *Gaude, Maria, Sponsa Dei*; that is, Rejoice, Mary, thou Spouse of God. There were in this window many other pictures of popish saints, as of St. George, &c.; but their prime cathedral saint, Archbishop Becket, was most rarely pictured in that window, in full proportion, with cope, rochet, mitre, crosier, and his pontificalibus. And in the foot of that window was a title intimating that win-

dow to be dedicated to the Virgin Mary.” In afterwards describing his own share in the work, he lets out that he was not a little vain of the performance, although he withholds his name:—“A minister,” he says, “was on the top of the city ladder, near sixty steps high, with a whole pike in his hand, rattling down proud Becket’s glassy bones, when others then present would not venture so high.” The modes in which self-admiration exhibits itself are very various.

The cathedral has of late years undergone great repairs and judicious restoration, at the expense of the dean and chapter. One of the two towers at the west end has been rebuilt with stone from Caen in Normandy, of which the whole cathedral is constructed, except those pillars which are of Purbeck stone. The present establishment consists of a dean, twelve prebendaries, six preachers, six minor canons, and the usual officers. The grammar-school, which is within the precincts, and is supported by the chapter, is called the King’s School, having been remodelled by Henry VIII. This school was originally founded by Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury, who died about 696.

But we must now leave the cathedral, and proceed to the other buildings which we have also to notice. Before quitting the quarter, however, in which the metropolitan church is situated, we must direct attention to the fine specimen of a kind of architecture in which our ancestors greatly

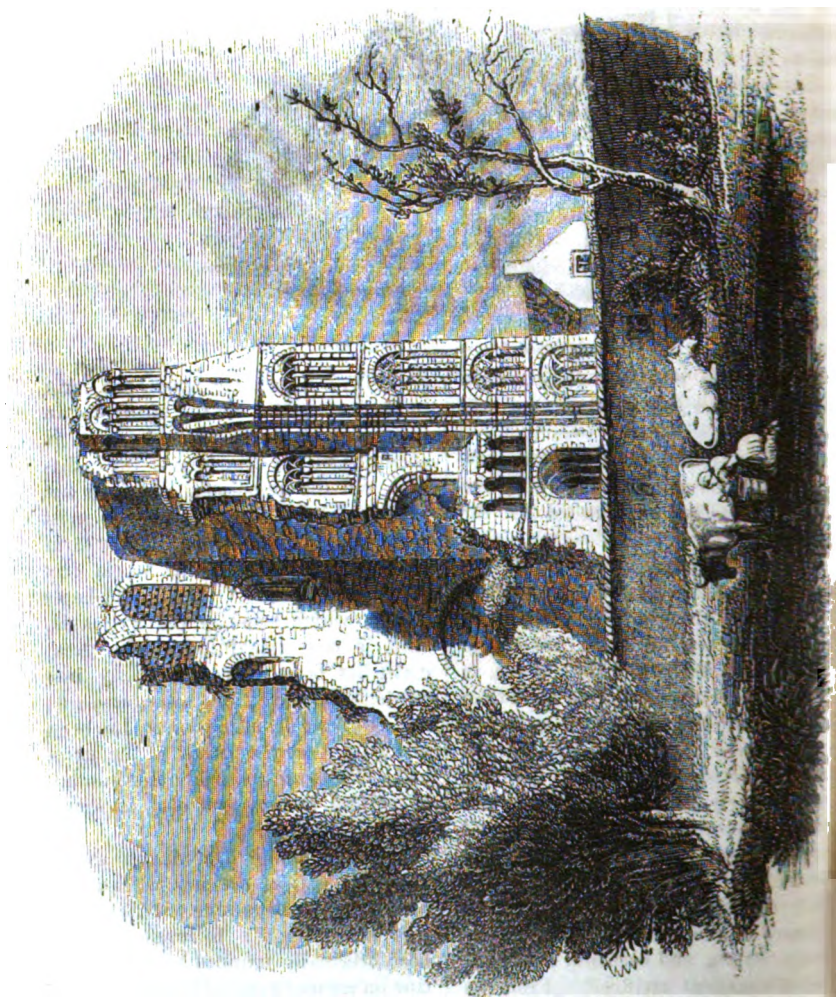


[King's School, Canterbury. From an Old Print.]

delighted—the Precinct Gate—worn and half obliterated by time, but still majestic. It forms the principal entrance, that from the south-west corner, to the extensive court in which the cathedral stands, surrounded by the prebendal houses, the deanery, what was the archiepiscopal palace, and other buildings connected with the establishment of the church. It opens upon the ancient avenue from the High Street, called Mercery Lane, where, in the Chequer Inn, occupying more than half the west side, and extending a considerable way down the High Street, and in other large tenements adjoining, were formerly lodged many of the pilgrims who crowded hither from all parts to pay their devotions at the shrine of St. Thomas. The gate is correctly described by Somner, in his ‘History of the Cathedral,’ as “a very goodly, strong, and beautiful structure, and of excellent artifice.” From an inscription over the arch, now nearly

illegible, it appears to have been built in the year 1517. Of the space within the precinct, a considerable part is occupied by the cemetery of the cathedral, and the remainder which is not covered by buildings is for the most part laid out in gardens. It may form about a fifth part of the whole city within the walls. Of the archbishop's palace, which stood on the west side, little is now remaining. The great court has been converted partly into gardens and partly into a timber-yard; and a private dwelling-house has been formed out of the porch of the great hall. There are a considerable number of private houses, and also of shops, within the precinct.

Directly facing Queningate stands the great gate of the now ruined monastery of St. Augustine. This monastery is commonly believed to have been originally founded by St. Augustine on ground granted to him by King Ethelbert, and to have been at first

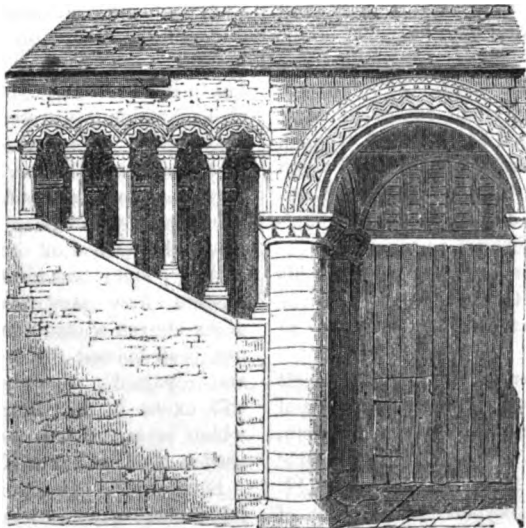


dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It was St. Dunstan who, in the year 978, dedicated it anew to these apostles, and also to St. Augustine.

The small portion of the monastery which now remains adjoins the great gateway; but at the dissolution of the religious houses it was so extensive a building, that Henry VIII. seized upon it as a palace for himself. It was afterwards granted to Cardinal Pole for life, by Queen Mary. On his decease it reverted to the crown; and, in 1573, Queen Elizabeth, having paid a visit to Canterbury, kept her court here.

This building afterwards came into the possession of Lord Wotton, whose

lady, after her husband's death, received Charles II. here on his way to London, at the Restoration. From her it is still commonly called Lady Wotton's Palace. The whole area comprehended within the enclosure of the monastery is about sixteen acres. In the fifth edition of Mr. Gostling's work, printed about forty years ago, it is said—"The west front of the monastery extends about 250 feet, and the walls which enclose the whole precincts are standing: the great gate has buildings adjoining, which once had some handsome apartments, and particularly a bed-chamber, with a ceiling very curiously painted. The whole is now



[Staircase in the Conventual Buildings, Canterbury.]

let to one who keeps a public-house; and, having plenty of excellent water, this apartment is converted to a brew-house, the steam of which has miserably defaced that fine ceiling. The rest of the house he has fitted up for such customers as choose to spend their time there, having turned the great court-yard into a bowling-green, the fine chapel adjoining to the north side of the church into a fives-court, with a skittle-ground near it; and the great room over the gate to a cock-pit." A short distance to the south-east of the gate stands a fragment known by the name of Ethelbert's Tower, which appears to have been a portion of the old abbey church. Not far from this was erected some years ago a City and County Hospital for the relief of the sick and lame poor. It stands near the middle of the area. To the east of that again is a small edifice of great antiquity, called St. Pancras' Chapel, the materials and architecture of which appear to be Roman, and which, according to tradition, was King Ethelbert's private chapel, in which he worshipped his ancestral gods before his conversion to Christianity. It is only thirty feet long by twenty-one in breadth.

But the most interesting monument of antiquity in Canterbury, and one of the most interesting in the kingdom, is the church of St. Martin, at some distance east from the chapel of St. Pancras, and beyond the precinct of the monastery. It stands on the side of a hill, rising on the left hand of the

road leading to Deal, within half a mile of the city walls. The body of this church, which is still used for divine service, is built of Roman bricks; and the character of the architecture, although about that there has been much difference of opinion, has been thought to concur in indicating that its erection must have preceded the Saxon invasion. It is probable, at any rate, that it was built of the materials, and on the site, of a Roman edifice. Bede states that Augustine, on his arrival found two ancient Christian churches at Canterbury, the one within the city in its eastern quarter, and the other at a short distance without the walls. The former was, no doubt, that which was eventually converted into the cathedral, and the other this church of St. Martin; or, at least, the older building in the same place, out of the materials of which the present church was constructed. Here Queen Bertha is said to have had the service of religion performed to herself and her Christian attendants by her chaplain Luidhard, before the arrival of the Roman missionary; and it was here also that Augustine first performed mass, the other church within the city not having been opened till it was enlarged and repaired. A very ancient font still exists in St. Martin's Church, which is asserted to have been that used at the baptism of King Ethelbert.

Such are the principal memorials of its ancient greatness which are now left to this venerable ecclesiastical metropolis. Our limits have enabled us

rather to note rapidly the chief points of interest presented by each than to describe any of them fully. A complete account of the cathedral alone would furnish matter for a large volume, and the subject has indeed occupied several large volumes. The early history of some others of these old buildings, again, carries us so far into the deepest night of the past, that, although there is little to relate, there is, on that very account, the more to conjecture, and the wider field for the imagination to expatiate in.

Canterbury contains fourteen parish churches, and several dissenting chapels. The charitable institutions, for education, for the maintenance and relief of the aged and infirm, and other purposes, are numerous. The City and County Hospital, a valuable and well-conducted establishment, was completed in the year 1798, and was erected and is now supported by voluntary contributions. The undercroft of the cathedral was given to the Walloons by Queen Elizabeth in 1568; they introduced the art of silk-weaving, which was afterwards prosecuted to a very considerable extent. This manufacture is now extinct. Canterbury city has long been noted for its brawn, an article of delicacy, which is sent to all parts of the kingdom. The trade in wool is large, but the chief trade is in corn and hops; for the cultivation of which latter article the soil of the neighbourhood is particularly favourable. There are many mills on the banks of the Stour, some of which do a great deal of

business. Frequent attempts have been made to render the Stour navigable from the sea to the city for ships of 100 tons burthen; but the probable smallness of revenue has always prevented the undertaking. A railway, constructed within the last five or six years, from Whitstable to Canterbury, is in full work, and has rendered very considerable benefit to the trade of the town. The carriage of coals and heavy goods has been reduced one-half. Of the public buildings, the guildhall, the fruit and vegetable market, the new corn and hop exchange, the butter and fish markets, the philosophical museum, and the assembly rooms, are the chief. At the south-east corner of a field, close to the city wall, is a large artificial mound, or circular hill. In the year 1790 Mr. Alderman James Simmonds, to whom the city is much indebted for many improvements, converted this place into a city mall; the sides of the hill were also cut into serpentine walks, so as to admit an easy ascent to its summit, and were connected with a terrace formed upon the rampart within the wall, extending in length upwards of 600 yards; additional walks were also made in the field in which it is situate, called the Dane John or Donjon Field, and a double row of limes was planted on the sides of the principal walk. The public-spirited conduct of this individual is commemorated by a pillar placed on the summit of the mound. Some springs of mineral waters were accidentally discovered in 1693 on pre-

mises now used as nursery ground, and have from that time to the present been highly esteemed for their medicinal properties. One is purely chalybeate, and the other contains a portion of sulphur in combination with the iron. During the severest seasons these waters never freeze.

The city of Canterbury was in ancient times part of the royal demesnes, and was under the government of an officer appointed by the crown, styled the prefect, portreeve, or provost, who had all the civil authority, and accounted yearly to the king for the several profits arising from the city. In the last year of King John two bailiffs appear to have been appointed for these purposes, and to have continued till the 18th of Henry III., when the citizens were empowered to choose bailiffs for themselves. This constitution of the city remained until the 26th of Henry VI., when a charter of further liberties and privileges was granted, and that form of municipal government established which existed until the operation of the Municipal Reform Act. By the charter of Henry, and a subsequent one of the 31st of his reign, the governing body consisted of a mayor, recorder, 12 aldermen, 24 common councilmen, a sheriff, town-clerk, and other subordinate officers. This charter was confirmed and enlarged by Edward IV., who settled the boundaries of the jurisdiction, and formed the city into a county, by the name of the county of the city of Canterbury. There were subsequent charters by Henry VII.,

Henry VIII., James I., Charles II., and George III. The city was divided into six wards, named from each one of the six principal gates, each ward being presided over by two aldermen. The style of the corporate body is that of the mayor and commonalty of the city of Canterbury. Under the new act it has 6 aldermen and 18 councillors. Quarter-sessions are held by the recorder. Capital offences are removed to the assizes at Maidstone. The city has sent two members to parliament since the 23rd of Edward I. The present parliamentary borough comprises, in addition to the city and its precincts, what is called the borough of Longport, and parts of some other parishes. The number of acres within the city jurisdiction is 2780: rather more than 1470 have been added to the parliamentary borough. The division of the city, under the authority of the Municipal Act, is into three wards only, West Gate, Dane John, and North Gate. Canterbury has the advantage of good markets and excellent inns. There are two banking-houses in high credit. The neighbourhood abounds in gentlemen's seats.

The markets are daily for provisions of all kinds; but the principal one, which is for cattle, corn, hops, and seeds, is holden on Saturday, and is toll-free for corn. A market for fat stock is held every alternate Tuesday with Ashford. The annual fair, which commences on the 11th of October, and lasts from eight to ten days, is very numerously attended; being chiefly

for pedlery and toys. The population, according to the census of 1831, was 14,463.

The distance between Canterbury and Dover is sixteen miles.

Midway between Canterbury and Dover, about two miles from the high road, is the village of BARFRETON. The church has been considered to be of Anglo-Saxon architecture, but is more probably Norman. It consists of a nave and chancel, having a joint length of 43 feet 4 inches; the width of the nave, 16 feet 8 inches; of the

chancel, 13 feet 6 inches, interior dimensions. The nave and chancel communicate by an arch rising from wreathed columns, and richly sculptured. There have been some insertions, but on the whole the church is much in its original state. The doorway is lavishly enriched with ornaments, as was the practice of the Anglo-Norman architects.

Near the tenth milestone is a road to the village of SWINGFIELD, about a mile on the right of the high road, where the Templars had a Preceptory,



[Doorway of Barfreton Church.]

which was founded before 1190. The remains are now used as a farm-house. The eastern part, which was the most ancient, was used as a chapel, and exhibits three lancet-shaped windows,

above which are the same number of small circular ones. The lover of architectural antiquities will be repaid by a visit to this relic of the proud and haughty Templar: it is not more than



[Templar's Preceptory, Swingfield.]

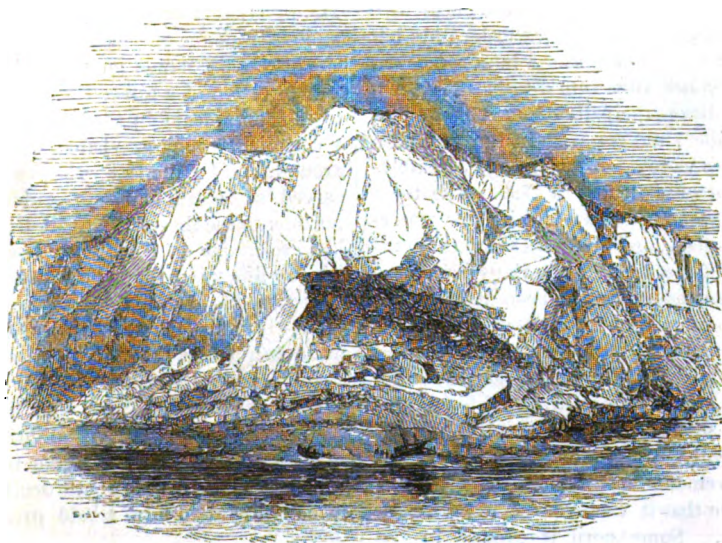
8 miles from Dover. The foundations of the establishment may be traced in several parts of the homestead, and show that it must have been one of considerable importance. King John is said to have resigned his crown to the legate of the pope at Swingfield. The parish church has a tower with a beacon turret.

DOVER is situated on the coast, at the opening of a deep valley formed by a depression in the chalk hills, which here present a transverse section to the sea. This depression runs into the interior for several miles, and forms the basin of a small stream. Dover was called by the Saxons *Dwyr*, from *dwfyr* (a steep place), or from *dwr* (water), there being a small stream in

the valley at the extremity of which Dover stands. By the Romans it was called *Dubris*, whence Dover.

Dover is one of the Cinque-Ports, a borough and market-town, having separate jurisdiction, 16 miles south-east by south from Canterbury and 72 east-south-east from London.

From its proximity to the continent, Dover has for many years been the usual port for passengers going both from and to England. In the reign of Henry VIII. the emperor Charles V. landed here, and Henry on that occasion contributed a large sum for the erection of a pier, which was subsequently completed in the reign of Elizabeth. The castle, which is on the northern side of the town, is



[Dover Cliff.]

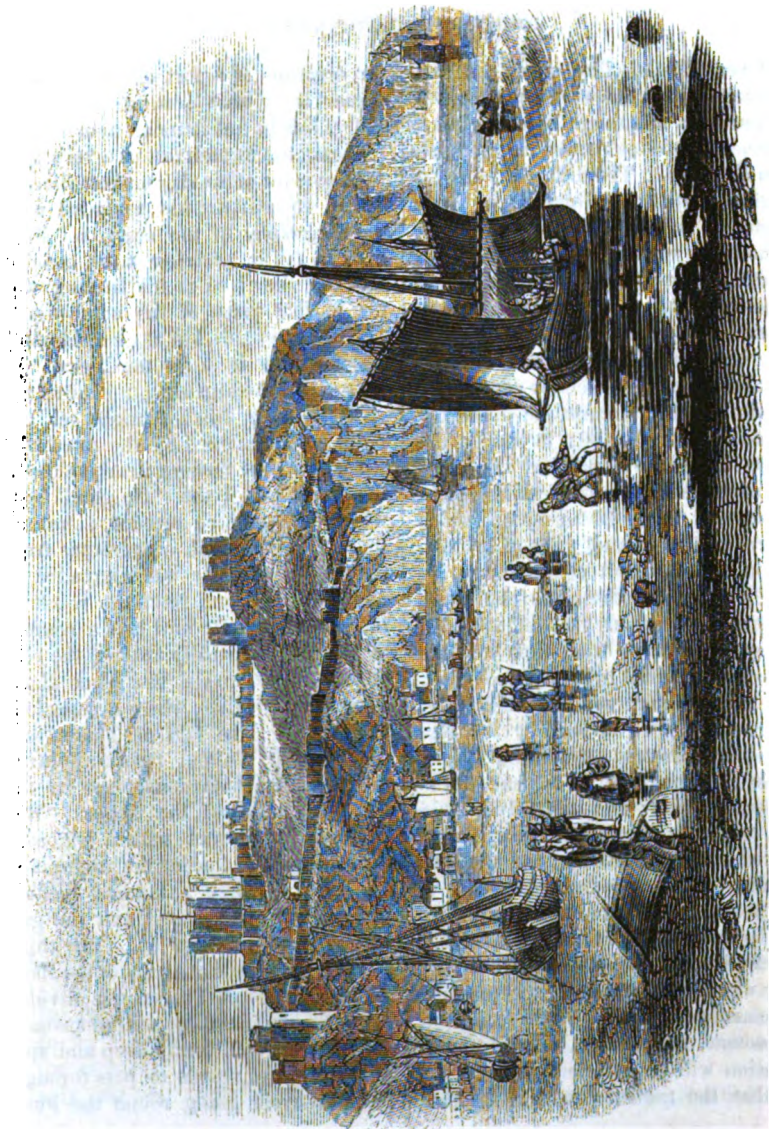
supposed to have been originally constructed by the Romans. The southern heights of Dover were originally strongly fortified during the late war, and extend in a semicircle as far as the famous Shakspeare's Cliff, so called from the celebrated scene in 'King Lear.'

The boundaries of the present borough, in addition to the old borough, include a part of the parish of Buckland, and in 1831 comprised a population of 15,298 persons; 1846 parliamentary electors were registered in the year 1840. The borough sends two members to parliament. It appears from the Municipal Corporation Report to be doubtful whether there are any charters. A court of record is held three times a week. The general sessions are held three times a year before the recorder and other justices. There was a hundred court, but it has fallen into disuse. The town consists principally of one street about a mile long, running in the direction of the valley. A theatre and assembly-room were erected in 1790. The town is now considered a fashionable watering-place, and possesses every convenience for sea-bathing. Many handsome houses have recently been built for the accommodation of visitors in the season. The harbour is not very good, but it can accommodate ships of 500 tons, and is principally used for sailing and steam packets to France. It has recently undergone repairs and improvements, but it does not seem probable that it can ever be made a good port. Some corn is ground in the

neighbourhood, and exported to London; and there are some paper-mills near the town. The market-days are Wednesday and Saturday. An annual fair is held on the 23rd of November.

There are two churches, St. James's and St. Mary's; the former worth 145*l.*, the latter 287*l.* per annum: as well as a new church, and places of worship for Baptists, Society of Friends, Independents, Wesleyan Methodists, Unitarians, and Roman Catholics. A charity-school for boys and girls was founded in 1789: it has received various donations; and in 1820 a new building, capable of containing 200 boys and 200 girls, was erected. The hospital of St. Mary, afterwards called the *Maison-Dieu*, was founded in the 13th Henry III. by Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent and chief justice of England.

The Castle stands on the most elevated portion of a hill to the east of the town and immediately above it, forming a conspicuous object, visible for miles around, and for the last 1800 years has served as a landmark to guide the mariner to the shores of England. The hill itself, one of the long chain of white cliffs which bound the southern shores of England, rises nearly perpendicularly from the sea to a height of more than 300 feet; and, being divided from the neighbouring hills by deep valleys on the south-west and north-east, as well as by abrupt declivities on nearly every part but the west or north-west, which has a more gentle declivity, it may be said to form a bold promontory.



[Dover Castle, from the Beach under Shakespeare's Cliff.]

Dover Castle, like most ancient buildings which have been maintained for purposes of a rough kind of utility, presents more evidences of strength than elegance. The different portions of this pile of buildings have been erected at various times, and generally without any regard to appearance: yet the effect from a distance is perhaps more imposing than if the strictest architectural proportions and uniformity of style had been observed; and even on a nearer view the spectator cannot fail to admire the picturesque character of the scene. Taking in nearly the whole of the level part on the summit of the hill, the castle walls enclose an area of nearly 30 acres, on which towers and keeps and walls of Roman, Saxon, and Norman construction, are wildly mingled with structures of more modern date, which the exigencies of the garrison have from time to time caused to be added to the original plan.

It has been supposed that the Britons, before they were invaded by the Romans, had erected something like a castle or stronghold on the site of the present fortress; and it has been said that on such a foundation Julius Cæsar caused a more substantial and effective building to be constructed. But it would require little pains to show that the Britons, living in a very low state of civilization, were unequal to the task which some modern antiquarians have assigned them. With respect to the second supposition, a brief consideration will be sufficient to convince us that the tradition which ascribes

the erection of a fort on this spot to Cæsar is at least destitute of probability, if it be not founded in error.

Cæsar has himself left us a very graphic account of his visit to these shores; and if we compare his narrative with the geography of the coast, we shall scarcely fail in arriving at the conclusion that the place of his landing was not at that point of the coast where Dover now stands, but at a considerable distance from it to the north-east. It is true that he appears on his first arrival to have sailed straight for the point now occupied by the town (the sea at that time flowing nearly close to the rocks called the "Heights," from which it has since receded); but he there met with such a resistance from the natives, that he was compelled to withdraw his men from the reach of their missiles. He now held a council of war, and eventually ordered the vessels to proceed round to a place about seven miles farther, where a capacious bay between the Isle of Thanet and the cliff near Walmer Castle appeared to offer a less hazardous place for the disembarkation of the troops. But here again he met with a vigorous resistance; and finding the attempts of his men to force a landing ineffectual, they were recalled, and the galleys again sent farther on. The third attempt was made at a part of the shore where the Isle of Thanet was divided from the mainland by a large æstuary (at that time sufficiently deep and spacious to allow vessels to pass through, and thus avoid going round the Fore-

land). Here, after a sharp struggle, he succeeded in effecting a landing, and being now able to cope with the natives to more advantage, he very soon put them to the rout.

But although he thus effected a landing, and afterwards obtained various successes in his expeditions against the natives, he found himself so harassed by them and by the savage condition of the country, as well as from anxiety for the safety of his ships, that he was glad to avail himself of the earliest opportunity for taking his departure.

This occurred in the 55th year before the Christian era.

In the ensuing year he made another visit to Britain, and, coming better prepared, was enabled to achieve greater success; but even on this second expedition he did not stay long in the island, and we have no account of his having erected a fortress on the hill where the remains stand which have caused so much speculation. He certainly alludes to the completion of his camp before he attempted to penetrate into the country, but we have every reason to believe that this was near the spot where he landed, and where his ships required protection.

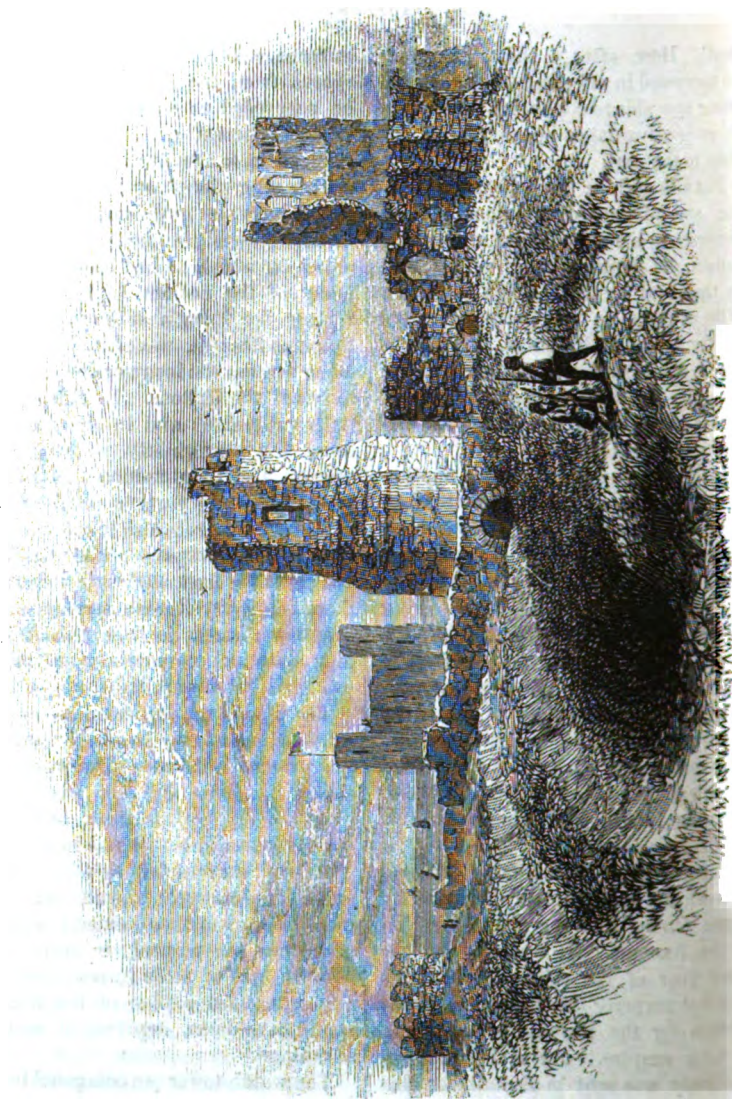
There was a considerable interval between the evacuation of the island by Julius Cæsar and the next visitation of the Romans. It was not till the third year of the reign of Claudius that that emperor determined to invade Britain for the purpose of annexing it to the empire. Aulus Plautius accordingly was sent to Britain for this

purpose, with such legions as could be spared from the service in Gaul, and he succeeded in subjugating a considerable portion of the country. He reduced it to the form of a province; and, having placed several of his veteran officers as governors of different districts, concluded he had effected the object for which he had been sent. But many of the natives having rebelled against the Roman authority, Publius Ostorius Scapula was sent, in the year 49, to repress the insurrectionary movements of the Britons. In this he partially succeeded; and in order to preserve the tranquillity to which the country had been reduced, as well as to suppress any further manifestation of ill-will, he proceeded to erect several forts in different parts of the country.

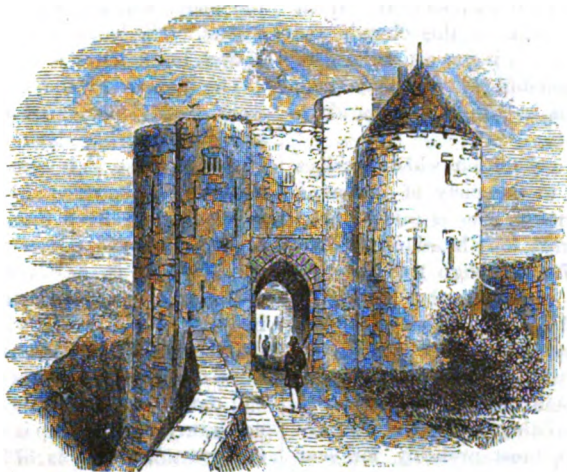
This is the first authentic account of there being any Roman masonry in the kingdom; and it is from this æra we may date the commencement of the works on the Castle Hill.

The plan of the fortifications erected by the Romans may be easily traced by the present remains. The space enclosed by them did not exceed the length of 400 feet, by about 140 feet in the greatest width. It was in the form of an oval, surrounded by a deep ditch and a high parapet; and although little more appears to have existed as a means of defence, the natural strength of the position was of more importance than a more extensive plan of fortification would have been, deprived of such an advantage.

The watch-tower (an octagonal build-



[Women Lightkeepers, Church and Transept in Dover Castle. From a sketch taken in 1895.]



[Norman Gateway, Dover Castle.]

ing), the parapet, the peculiar form of the ditch, all exhibit the hand of the Roman architect; and there is no doubt that the Romans had here one of their stationary posts or walled encampments. The foundations of the watch-tower are laid in a bed of clay, which was a usual practice with the Roman masons; and it is built with a stalactical composition instead of stone, intermixed with courses of Roman tiles. This edifice is of a square form in the interior, the sides being about 14 feet wide, while the thickness of the walls is equal to 10 feet. It is probable it was originally constructed higher than it now appears, though it is impossible now to say whether such was the fact. The entrance to the north-east is about six feet wide, the passage being arched

and in good preservation; but the windows above have been altered, repaired, and disfigured, so that it is scarcely possible to recognise them as a part of the original building. This tower was made a place of defence in the time of William the Conqueror, when it underwent several alterations; and it was repaired in the year 1259 by Richard de Grey, the constable of the castle. Since that time it has been allowed to take its chance of preservation against time and weather, both of which it has bravely resisted: but we are afraid, if it does not shortly succumb to the elements, it will be destroyed by the hand of man, as antiquarian tyros are carrying it away piecemeal.

The watch-tower and the ancient church are the only remaining build-

ings within the Roman fortress. What the precise origin of this church was is not known, but it was consecrated to Christian worship by St. Augustine, when he was in England in the sixth century.

There is a tradition which ascribes its erection to the piety of Lucius, a king of Britain, who is said to have been converted to Christianity about the year 172. Though this may be doubted, it is certain that at a very early period it was used as a church. The Romans occupied a church on this spot until they quitted the country in the year 446; but whether that was the same building as the one still remaining we must probably for ever remain in ignorance. It has also been said to have been afterwards occupied by St. Augustin and his followers, by permission of Ethelbert. So at least the monkish chronicles inform us; but it has been supposed by modern antiquarians, and with probability, to have been pulled down and rebuilt by some of the masons or architects who arrived from the Continent in the eighth century, after St. Augustin had succeeded in planting the Christian religion in Britain. After the time of William I. (when John de Fiennes, the constable of the castle, placed three chaplains in the church), we often find mention made of it; and several of the officers connected with the castle have been buried there.

The building is in the form of a cross, with a square tower rising over the intersection, formed by the transept and

the body, which is supported by four pillars. The length of the body of the church to the tower is 60 feet.

The Saxons extended the ground-work of the Roman fortress, and erected a fortress differing materially from that of the Romans, as it consisted merely of perpendicular sides without parapets, surrounded by deep ditches. In the centre of the old Saxon works is the keep, which is, however, of Roman origin, the foundation having been laid in 1153. It is a massy square edifice, the side on the south-west being 103 feet; that on the north-west 108 feet; and the other two 123 feet each. The north turret of the keep is 95 feet above the ground, which is 373 feet above the level of the sea. The view from it, in a clear day, comprises the North Foreland, Ramsgate pier, the Isle of Thanet, the valley of Dover, and the towns of Calais and Boulogne, with the intermediate French coast. The rest of the fortifications are, for the most part, of Roman origin, but present the altered and improved appearance which has been given them by a succession of repairs for a course of centuries. The tower, which in the engraving is seen in the distance, forms part of the Norman additions to the castle, which surround the old Roman fortification to a considerable extent. Indeed the space occupied on the Castle Hill by the Romans was very confined in comparison with the works of after-ages, which, as already stated, occupy thirty acres of ground.

During the French Revolution it was

considered important to secure and defend Dover Castle as a military station. Large sums were voted for this purpose; and miners and other labourers were employed to excavate the rock for purposes of defence, and to cast up additional mounds and ramparts. Extensive barracks were excavated in the solid rock, by which accommodations were provided for a garrison of three or four thousand men. The subterraneous rooms and passages are shown to visitors, upon an order of the military commandant being obtained. There is an armoury in the keep; and many ancient curiosities are to be seen here, among which is Queen Elizabeth's pocket-pistol, a beautiful piece of brass ordnance presented to Elizabeth by the States of Holland, as a token of respect for the assistance she afforded them against Spain. It is 24 feet long, and bears a Dutch inscription, of which the following is a translation:—

"O'er hill and dale I throw my ball;
Breaker, my name, of mound and wall."

In Lyon's 'History of Dover,' in two volumes quarto, or in a smaller work published by William Batcheller at Dover, may be found the detailed history of this castle, one remarkable event in which is, that on the 21st of August, 1642, it was surprised and wrested from the king's garrison by a merchant of Dover, named Blake, with only ten of his townsmen, who kept possession of it for the Parliament, and effectually resisted the king's troops. It is also worth notice that on the 7th of January, 1785, Dr. Jefferies and M.

Blanchard embarked in a balloon from the castle heights, and, having crossed the channel in safety, descended in the forest of Guisnes in France.

The Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports is constable of Dover Castle, and has the execution of the king's writs within the Cinque Ports—a jurisdiction extending from Margate to Seaford, independently of the sheriffs of Kent and Sussex. The castle contains a prison used for debtors and smugglers; and the keeper has the feudal designation of Bodar, under the Lord Warden. The courts of Chancery, Admiralty, &c., for the Cinque Ports, are held by the Lord Warden in St. James's church, at the foot of the Castle-Hill. The office of Lord Warden has been usually given to the first Lord of the Treasury, and is now held by the Duke of Wellington in consequence of his grace having been such first Lord when the office became vacant.

South-west from Dover is a precipice which has been long known by the name of Shakspeare's Cliff, from the famous description in "Lear," which it is supposed to have suggested. In the first scene of the fourth act of that tragedy, the blind Gloucester, while wandering on the heath, having met his son Edgar, who does not discover himself, asks him, "Dost thou know Dover?" and when the latter answers, "Ay, master," rejoins

"There is a cliff whose high and bending head
Looks fearfully in the confined deep;
Bring me but to the very brink of it.

—From that place
I shall no leading need."

From the first two of these lines the particular cliff here depicted has probably been fixed upon as that which the poet must have had in his mind. The summit of this portion of the chalky battlement formerly overhung its base, and, as Gloster forcibly expresses it, looked fearfully *in* (not *on*, as it has often been printed) the confined deep. Shakspeare's Cliff, however, has now lost this distinguishing peculiarity. So many portions have successively fallen from it that, instead of bending over the sea, it now retires at the top towards the land: part of the precipice is broken off into a declivity. Another effect has been, that its height is considerably diminished, and the look down is not so fearful as it must have been in Shakspeare's days.

Having led his father some way farther on, Edgar at length pretends to have brought him to the neighbourhood of the cliff. He then exclaims,

"Come on, sir, here's the place:—Stand still:
how fearful

And dizzy 't is to cast one's eyes so low!
The crows and choughs that wing the midway air
Show scarce so gross as beetles: half way down
Hangs one that gathers samphire; dreadful trade!
Methinks he seems no bigger than his head;
The fishermen that walk upon the beach
Appear like mice; and you tall anchoring bark
Diminish'd to her cock; her cock, a buoy
Almost too small for sight: the murmuring surge,
That on the unnumber'd idle pebbles chafes,
Cannot be heard so high. I'll look no more,
Lest my brain turn, and the deficient sight
Topple down headlong."

The passage is to be read with a recollection of the assumed character of Edgar; and whatever exaggeration there may be in it which is not sanctioned by the spirit of poetic representation, may be very fairly set down to the over-excited fancy and exalted language in which, as "poor Tom," the speaker throughout indulges. Some of the lines, however, independently altogether of this dramatic reference, are of exquisite beauty. What, for instance, can be more musically descriptive than

"The crows and choughs that wing the midway air"?

or,

"——— The murmuring surge,
That on the unnumber'd idle pebbles chafes,
Cannot be heard so high"?

These words bring the scene, not only to the eye, but almost to the ear; they give both the sights and the sounds.

The gathering of samphire, we may add, was actually pursued as a trade in Shakspeare's days. The herb was much used as a pickle.

Two miles and a half south-west of Dover are the venerable ruins of St. Radigund's Abbey, founded at the close of the twelfth century, and which was once of such importance, that the abbots sat in parliaments from the latter end of the reign of Edward I.

CHAPTER X.

LONDON TO MAIDSTONE, HYTHE, AND FOLKSTONE.

THE present excursion from London to the sea-coast will take us directly through the centre of Kent. We enter the county at New Cross, and proceed through the villages of Lee and Eltham, already noticed, to Foot's Cray, before reaching which we pass, on the right, the village of Chiselhurst, where Camden the antiquary used to pass his summers, and here he died in 1623 and was buried in Westminster Abbey. At Farningham, about 17 miles from London, we cross the road from Dartford to Sevenoaks and Tunbridge by a brick bridge of four arches over the Darent. The approach to Farningham is very pleasing, the river being bordered by rich meadows, and enclosed on each side by swelling hills. Wrotham, 24 miles from London, is situated at the foot of a ridge of chalk hills, from which may be seen a prospect of great beauty extending over the vale until the landscape is bounded by distant hills on the south. The town is of great antiquity, and is supposed to have existed before the Roman period, becoming afterwards the site of a Roman station. At the beginning of the last century a considerable quantity of silver coin of the

ancient Britons was discovered in the parish. The archbishops of Canterbury had formerly a palace here; and in the church, which is rather a large and handsome edifice, are sixteen stalls for the use of the clergy in attendance upon the archbishop. The market has long since been discontinued. At Offham, on the high road, a short distance from Wrotham, is a quintain, which the lord of the manor is bound to preserve, though this ancient sport has long fallen into disuse.

West or Town Malling and East Malling are situated about half a mile on the right of the main road, each on separate roads which connect the London and Maidstone road with that from Maidstone to Tunbridge. At Town Malling was an ancient Benedictine nunnery, the yearly value of the possessions of which at the dissolution was 245*l.* gross, or 218*l.* clear. Many parts of the conventual buildings are yet standing, especially a portion of the west end of the church, a beautiful specimen of Norman architecture. There is also at St. Leonard's, a hamlet of Malling, a tower 71 feet high, much resembling the keep of a Norman castle: it belonged to St. Leonard's

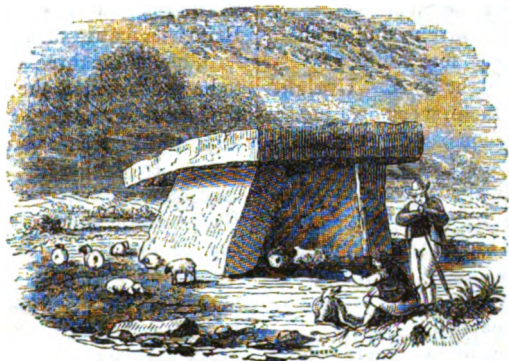
chapel, now destroyed. Town Malling church, a handsome and spacious building, has a Norman tower at the west end. There is a small endowed free-school. The market, held on Saturday, has not been long discontinued.

On the left of the London and Maidstone road is Aylesford, on the right bank of the Medway, over which there is here a handsome bridge of six arches. The church, a handsome building, with a square tower at the west end, is situated on an eminence at the back of the village. The ground rises so abruptly, that the churchyard is higher than the chimneys of the houses in the street. Close to the Medway, a small distance west of the village, was a Carmelite Friary, founded in 1240. The site, precincts, and lands are now in the possession of the family of Finch, Earls of Aylesford, in whose mansion, and in the domestic offices, many portions of the friary buildings are still visible. We take the following description from Hasted:—"The greatest part of the ancient priory remains very fair, and by far the least demolished of any conventual edifice in these parts. The great gate from the road is yet entire. It opens to a large square court, in which are seen all the door-ways to the cells. The side where the high buttresses are left, on the left hand within the gate, was the great hall or refectory, now divided into rooms. The kitchen was likewise on the east side of the square, as appears by the large fire-places in one part of it. The chapel was that part of the building which

stands east and west; the north side of it fronts the garden as the south does the river; the east window of it was where now is the dining-room or gallery door with the iron balcony facing the town. The principal part of this priory, as the hall, chapel, cloisters, &c., was converted into stately apartments by Sir John Banks (who resided here in the latter part of the seventeenth century), and the cloisters were by him enclosed and paved with white and black marble. There is a fair high stone wall which fronts the road and encloses the garden, the same as when in its ancient state."—(Vol. iv. 2d ed. 1798.)

There are in the parish the ruins of the ancient free chapel of Longsole, now used as a barn, and called, from its lonely situation, 'The Hermitage.' It is about two miles from the town, on the other side of the Medway. On the window-frame of a large ancient barn (belonging to Preston Hall in this parish), built of stone, as well as on an outhouse near it, also of stone, and on a chimney-piece, are the letters TC, with the date 1102 in Arabic figures. The use of these at so early a period has given rise to much discussion among antiquaries.

But the most remarkable monument of antiquity is that called Kit's Coty House, situated on the brow of a hill about a mile N.E. of the village. It is composed of four large stones, of the stone called Kentish rag, according to Grose; while Hasted vaguely describes them as being "of the pebble



[Kit's Coty House.]

kind." The following description of this monument is given by Stow in his *Chronicle*, and quoted by Mr. Colebrooke in the *Archæologia*, vol. ii. p. 115 (pub. 1773):—"I have myself, in company with divers worshipful and learned gentlemen, beheld it in anno 1590, and it is of four flat stones, one of them standing upright in the middle of two others, enclosing the edge sides of the first, and the fourth laid flat aloft the other three, and is of such height that men may stand on either side the middle stone in time of storm or tempest safe from wind and rain, being defended with the breadth of the stones, having one at their backs, one on either side, and the fourth over their heads; and about a coit's cast from this monument lieth another great stone, much part thereof in the ground, as fallen down where the same had been affixed." "This last stone," says Mr. Colebrooke, "lies about seventy paces to the N.W. in the same

field. The thickness is half buried; but, from its present position, it seems as if it had once stood upright." "It has since been buried, "for the convenience of agriculture." It may be observed that the openings formed by the stones of Kit's Coty House are not of equal dimensions, but the larger one fronts between E. and N.E., whence, some writers (as Grose) describe them as forming three sides of a square. The upper stone is not quite parallel to the horizon, but inclines towards the W. or S.W. opening, in an angle of about nine degrees. The dimensions of the stones are as follows; we take them from Grose's *Antiquities*:—Upright stone on the N. or N.W. side, eight feet high, eight feet broad,* two feet thick; estimated weight, eight tons and a half.

* Hasted says this stone is near seven feet in height, and rather more in breadth. In the other dimensions and weights he agrees with Grose, from whom it is likely he took them. The dimensions given in the *Archæologia* are very different.

Upright stone on the S. or S.E. side, eight feet high, seven and a half feet broad, two feet thick; estimated weight, eight tons. Upright stone between these, very irregular; medium dimensions, five feet high, five feet broad, fourteen inches thick; estimated weight about two tons. Upper stone, very irregular, eleven feet long, eight feet broad, two feet thick; estimated weight about ten tons seven cwt. None of the stones have any marks of workmanship.

At the distance of two fields southward from Kit's Coty House, in the bottom nearer to Aylesford, is a heap of the like kind of stones, some of which are partly upright, and others lying in a circle round them, in all to the number of nine or ten. Those that are partly upright, with a large one lying across them, appear to have once formed a kind of structure like that of Kit's Coty House, and to have had the same aspect; the whole heap is now intergrown with elms and other coppice shrubs. This monument of antiquity is supposed to have been demolished by some persons digging a trench beneath it, in hope of finding treasure. (*Hasted's History of Kent.*) Still nearer to Aylesford is a remarkable stone, called, from its shape, the Coffin.

Respecting the origin of Kit's Coty House, as well as of its singular name, different opinions are entertained. It appears that about A.D. 455, soon after the arrival of the Saxons in England under Hengist and Horsa, when hosti-

lities broke out between them and the Britons, a battle took place at Aylesford, one of the three which are thought to have compelled the Saxons to leave the island for a time. (*Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons*, book iii. c. 1.) In this battle, Catigern, brother of Guortemer, or Vortimer, the British commander, fell, as also Horsa, one of the Saxon chieftains. It is commonly supposed that this is the monument of Catigern; and the name, Kit's Coty House, is considered by Stow, Camden, Grose, and others, to be derived from the name of that person. Grose has this passage: "Perhaps the appellation of Ket's Coity House" (so he writes it) "may be thus illustrated: Ket or Cat is possibly the familiar abbreviation of Catigern; and in Cornwall, where there are many of these monuments, those stones whose length and breadth greatly exceed their thickness are called coits: Kit's Coity House may then express Catigern's House, built with coits, and might have been a taunting reflection on the memory of that champion for the British liberty used by the Saxons when in possession of the county of Kent." Mr. Colebrooke inclines to think it is the sepulchral monument of Horsa, which is commonly supposed to be at Horsted, a manor a little to the left of the road from Rochester to Maidstone, about two miles from the former, where are many large stones scattered about the fields, some standing upright, others thrown down. The name of Kit's Coty House Mr. Cole-

brooke supposes to be derived from some old shepherd, who used to keep sheep on this plain, and to shelter himself from the weather in this monument. Mr. Pegge (*Archæol.* vol. iv. p. 110 et seq.) considers Mr. Colebrooke's hypothesis very doubtful, and regards this and other cromlechs as places of devotion rather than sepulchral monuments. Bede (quoted by Mr. Colebrooke) observes that the place where Horsa was buried retained his name: his words are "hactenus in orientalibus Cantii partibus monumentum habuit suo nomine insigne." Now we suppose no one will pretend to say that the name of Horsa is incorporated in the present title of this monument. The name is variously written: Keith Coty House, by Camden; Citscote House, by Lambarde (*Perambulation of Kent*, edit. of 1596); Cit's Coti-house by Stow; and differently by other writers.

Kist-vaens (of which Kit's Coty House is one of the most perfect specimens existing) are commonly found in the middle of stone circles, sometimes with and sometimes without a cromlech standing near. They are also occasionally found isolated, and there are instances of circles being formed by kist-vaens, with and without a cromlech in the centre, but we believe there is no instance known of a kist-vaen standing within a circle of cromlechs. There are two other modes in which kist-vaens are found disposed:—one where cromlechs and kist-vaens together form a circle; and the other

where the circle consists of kist-vaens and upright stones disposed alternately. A remarkable example of this last arrangement is found in the Druidical circle of Jersey.

Like the cromlech, the kist-vaen has been supposed to have been intended for the purposes of sacrifice or of sepulture, whilst other writers suppose that both these monuments were merely greater and lesser altars, the cromlech probably for the more awful portion of the ceremonies—the sacrifices; the kist-vaens for oblations. "We were," observes the editor of the '*Pictorial Palestine*,' "for a time inclined to this opinion, but on careful deliberation, and considering that the first tabernacles and constructed temples are to be taken as commentaries on the stone monuments of more ancient date, we felt more disposed to find an analogy between the kist-vaen, or stone chest, and the ark, or sacred chest, which we find as the most holy object in the tabernacle and temple of the Hebrews, as well as in the Egyptian and some other heathen temples."

Besides the engagement already mentioned between the Britons and Saxons, Aylesford deserves notice as the place to which Edmund Ironside, about the year 1016, pursued the Danes whom he had defeated at Otford. Dr. Plot was inclined to fix the Roman station Vagniacæ at Aylesford; but he does not appear to have any followers in this opinion.

In one place in the parish are several springs which change the stones in

them, as well as pieces of wood, to a carmine hue, which becomes deeper when they are taken out and have become dry. The water flows from a deep chalky loose soil, is very chilly, and has a rough taste; but there are no chalybeate qualities belonging to it.

Kit's Coty House is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Maidstone, and is situated in an angle formed by the London and Maidstone road and the road from Rochester to Maidstone.

The remains of Allington Castle, on the left of the road, just before reaching Maidstone, are occupied as two tenements. Allington was the seat of Sir Henry Wyatt, an accomplished scholar of the time of Henry VIII., and of his son, Sir Thomas, who suffered for treason against Queen Mary.

Maidstone, a corporate town and parliamentary borough, and the county and assize town, is situated on a pleasant declivity chiefly on the right bank of the Medway, about two miles above Allington lock, eight miles above Rochester, and 32 miles south-east by east from London. Till the lock was constructed on the river the tide came up to Maidstone. The town consists of four principal streets, which are well paved and lighted, and it contains many well-built houses. There are two reservoirs for supplying the inhabitants with water, conveyed from a spring on the opposite banks of the Medway, which river is here crossed by a very ancient stone bridge of several arches. The derivation of the name "Maidstone" is not precisely

known; at least, various etymologies are given by Camden, Hasted, and others. According to Nennius, this place was called by the British *Caer Meguaid*, or *Medwag*, signifying the town or city of the Medway. At a very early period Maidstone formed part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and is entered in the general survey of Domesday under the title of the lands of the archbishop. The charters of incorporation are those of 3 Edward VI., 2 Elizabeth, 2 and 17 James I., 34 Charles II., and 21 George II. The first of these was forfeited in the time of Queen Mary, in consequence of the supposed participation of the leading members of the corporation in the rebellion of Sir Thomas Wyatt.

The revenue of the corporation in 1835, arising from landed property, tolls, &c., was estimated at 1114*l*. The total debt at that time was 15,875*l*., and the annual expenditure, the chief item in which was the interest on this debt, is supposed to be about equal to the income. The landed property has lately been sold, and a great part of the debt paid off. The town is divided into six wards: the town-council consists of 6 aldermen and 18 councillors.

The town is in a thriving state. There are manufactories of felt and blankets, but these are of limited extent compared with the paper-mills, which employ upwards of 800 hands. The traffic up and down the river is considerable, and has been materially increased by the construction of the

lock for improving the navigation. The imports consist chiefly of coal, timber, groceries, iron, and rags; the exports are mostly fruit, hops, stone from the quarries of Kentish ragstone in this parish and neighbourhood, and paper. The aggregate tonnage of the vessels passing through Allington lock is estimated at 120,000 tons, upon which tolls to the amount of 2600*l.* are annually collected.

There is no borough gaol: the justices of the borough commit all prisoners to the county gaol, and the expense of their maintenance, amounting to 1*s.* per day for each prisoner, is defrayed out of the borough-rate. On the east side of the river there are cavalry barracks. Nearly opposite to the town-hall is a spacious commercial room used as a corn-exchange. The archbishop's palace is a Gothic structure, rebuilt about the middle of the fourteenth century. Since that time it has undergone considerable alteration, and in its present state is a pleasant and convenient residence. The chapel of Newark Hospital, which was built in the thirteenth century, is a small but beautiful specimen of the early pointed style. Maidstone formerly contained a college, consisting of a master, sub-master, and four priests, founded by Archbishop Courtenay in the reign of Richard II. It was suppressed by Edward VI., at which time its net annual revenue was 159*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* Among the persons of literary eminence who were connected with this college was the

learned William Grocyn, the friend of Erasmus. He died in 1522, and was interred at Maidstone. There was also a fraternity of Corpus Christi, and upon the suppression of this fraternity the buildings belonging to it, then called the "Brotherhood Hall," were purchased by the corporation, who established the free grammar-school, which still exists, but is not at present in a very flourishing condition. Free-men have the privilege of sending their sons to this school, where they receive a classical education gratuitously, but for other branches a charge is made by the master, who receives a salary of 23*l.* 12*s.* per annum from the funds of the corporation, and has the management of certain lands in Romney Marsh confided to him, these lands constituting the principal endowments of the school. There are exhibitions, founded by Robert Gunsley in 1618, for four scholars to University College, Oxford; two to be elected from this school, and two from the free grammar-school of Rochester. Besides the grammar-school there are a proprietary school, four charity schools, nineteen almshouses, a medical dispensary, and other benevolent institutions. Maidstone is in the diocese of Canterbury. The living is a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the archbishop, producing a net income of 720*l.* The parish church of All Saints, which is one of the largest in the kingdom, was built in the fourteenth century; the new church was built a few years ago. There are also nine places of worship

for Dissenters. The population of the borough, which is coextensive with the parish, was 15,387 in the year 1831, exclusive of the prisoners confined in the county gaol, and is still increasing. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the number of inhabited houses was 294, and 22 persons were returned as wholly engaged in "the trade of merchandize." The number of inhabitants probably did not much exceed 1500. The assessed taxes collected in 1630 amounted to 4784*l*. Maidstone has returned two members to parliament continuously from the reign of Edward VI. In 1840 the number of electors on the register was 1167. The county gaol at Maidstone is a modern building, constructed in 1818 on the improved radiating plan, at an expense of 200,000*l*. According to the Gaol Returns transmitted to the secretary of state it appears that the general state of the prisoners, as to morals, discipline, employment, &c., is satisfactory. The total number confined at one time occasionally exceeds 400; the gaol is capable of containing 453 in separate sleeping cells. The hours of labour are from six in the morning to half-past five in the evening, when the daylight admits; and at other times of the year from daylight in the morning till half an hour before sunset in the evening. By means of Sunday and day schools, conducted under the direction of the chaplain, provision is made for the instruction of prisoners of all classes.

There are four fairs held annually, on the 13th of February, 12th of May,

20th of June, and 17th of October: the last is a large hop-fair.

Pennenden Heath, about one mile and a half north-east of Maidstone, is the place where meetings of the county have taken place from a period prior to the Conquest. At a great assembly of the most notable persons in the kingdom, held here in 1076, which lasted three days, Lanfranc, archbishop of Canterbury, brought various charges against Odo, Bishop of Baieux and Earl of Kent, for defrauding the church. The Bishop of Chester, on account of his age, was, by the king's order, brought to the meeting in a waggon.

Several of the most important thoroughfares in the country pass through Maidstone. The principal of these roads lead from Maidstone to the following places:—1. To Hythe, Folkestone, and Dover. 2. To Canterbury. 3. To Rochester. 4. To Tenterden and Romney, with a branch to Hastings and Rye. 5. To Tunbridge, with a branch to Tunbridge Wells. 6. To Westerham.

Leaving Maidstone we resume our journey towards the coast, and soon reach the Mote, the seat of the Earl of Romney. There is nothing particularly noticeable until we reach Leeds Castle, about six miles from Maidstone.

The following account was written by a friend who visited Leeds village and castle two or three years ago. There are many houses in the villages of Kent such as the one described below, and which, two or

three centuries ago, were inhabited by a class now nearly extinct, on whose monumental inscriptions we read after their names the word "gentleman," then a term legally defining their condition in the community instead of being bestowed as a title of courtesy. The following account is not only interesting from its description of a residence three centuries old, but because it also gives a touching statement of the condition and mental state of the occupiers of the present day :—

"The village of Leeds has an air of remote antiquity. It stands on a series of abrupt elevations, over which the houses are scattered without the least regard to convenience. A stream tumbles and foams amid fallen stones, ruined pigsties, decayed cattle-stalls, and prostrate trunks of trees. A cloud of sadness overshadows the whole place—everything except the local prejudices of the inhabitants seems to be worn out. But Leeds is albeit a place to enrich an artist's eye; the mellow tints of centuries unite with the vegetable hues of yesterday, and produce the most picturesque combinations. Many of the old houses are the very models of picturesque construction; one in particular arrested my attention: it was a large frame-work building with the interspaces filled with plaster-work, ornamented with herring-bone zigzag lines; the elevation divided into five compartments, with a corresponding arrangement of windows, and a door in the central division. Five gables with enriched cor-

nices broke the uniformity of a huge roof, while over the middle one a stately and beautifully designed pile of red-brick chimneys carried the eye upwards and led it gracefully out of the composition. An ample garden, 'gaily pranked' with daffodils, spread round the house, and behind, a fine cluster of trees served to shelter the residence of poverty. Here, then, was a picture! I was delighted with it. Nothing at the moment seemed more desirable than to live in such a house; it had so rural an aspect; was in its individual details so beautiful, and withal so charmingly old-fashioned. But as this, happily for me, was a 'vain imagination,' I resolved at least on seeing the inside of this antique elysium. The necessary permission being obtained, and the horse-shoed threshold crossed, a single glance sufficed to dissipate my romantic notions. The scene revealed was one of misery. Nature and art might have made the exterior beautiful, but ignorance and want had rendered the interior comfortless. The house was originally built to serve as one residence, but had been afterwards converted by a partition into two. On entering I found the centre of the house so much occupied by the massy foundations of the chimney, that room had scarcely been left for the free opening of the door; indeed one-fourth of the interior must have been taken up by the fireplace and its piers. This house, or rather half-house, consisted of two rooms, each 40 feet by 25, and 12 feet

high, with three lumber-rooms, built on the outside, but entered by doors from within. The roof and walls were of bare and roughly-hewn wood, and the floor of brick and stone. The doors were warped by age, the windows shivered in the frequent blast, and the wall, split by the long contingencies of three hundred years, everywhere exhibited cracks and crannies through which the wind moaned and eddied in numerous conflicting currents, which gave a bitter coldness to the apartments; and, as might have been expected, the inmates suffer much from inflammatory complaints. The Cyclopean mouth of the chimney stretched its vast jaws across one end of the room, black with smoke, redolent of domestic odours, and illumined, but scarcely warmed, by a scanty wood-fire. A table with twisted legs, half-a-dozen low-seated chairs, a few stools, and an immense upright clock, all doubtless heir-looms, comprised the furniture. Over two sides of the room a grand display of coloured prints and papers appeared to bespeak a love of ornament, if not of something better, and they accordingly received my close attention. The prints, with the exception of a few tea and tobacco wrappers, were Scripture subjects, executed in the lowest style of art, but in every case vividly coloured; and as this, by the way, is the only pictorial quality the uneducated eye can appreciate, it necessarily becomes the test to which the poor, from the ploughboy to the milkmaid, subject all matters

of art—a fact of which those who wish to reach their hearts by such means would do well to take heed. The papers afforded curious illustrations of that love of marvellous narratives and those superstitious notions which invariably characterise the uneducated. The following are titles of the most remarkable:—

“1. An Account of the barbarous and awful Murder of Mrs. Antony Wood, and how it was found out by her Ghost.—2. A Warning from Heaven to England, being Mr. Brightly’s Sermon, which he preached in his shroud, and died when he had completed it: showing what he said, how he died, and how music was heard in the air when he gave up the ghost.—3. A Letter written by Jesus Christ in answer to one sent to him by King Agabus.—4. Glad Tidings: a Carol for Christmas.—5. Life and Death of Pegsworth, the Murderer.—6. Awful Shipwreck of the *Cybella*, on her voyage to Quebec, in which 316 souls perished.—7. Message of Mortality, or Life and Death contrasted.

“These solemn moralities are composed in the most doggerel style, full of horrors, but spiced with a plentiful admixture of religious and sentimental allusions. They are, I believe, even yet sold extensively in our more remote villages, and command the implicit faith of the simple purchasers. In the examples before me great care had been taken in their embellishment and preservation. They were tacked to the wall, above the reach of children:

and decorated on the borders with festooned ribands, and on the corners with rosettes of gaily-coloured cloth. I asked the good woman of the house her reasons for all this care, and was surprised with the following interesting and touching answer:—‘Sir, we have seven children; we are too poor to send them to school, and there is no free-school in the place. We cannot afford to buy books, and, as I do not like to see them grow up like brutes, I read these papers to them on Sundays, and at other odd times I learn them to read them themselves. *I have no other way I can do!*’ This kind mother seemed by her flat cheek, shrivelled lower lip, sallow complexion, ready tongue, and love of reading, to have been an inhabitant of a town. Her husband expressed his admiration of her powers, and showed me a patch-work paper screen to stand between their own and their children’s bed, which he triumphantly declared was ‘all her own work.’ On inquiring, he informed me that the sum of 2s. per day, which he obtained as a farmer’s labourer, was the chief support of the family; that he was often out of work, and had to pay 5l. per year for his half of the cottage I had so much admired, and which I left with a deep regret that, for the sake of its inmates and the villagers at large, I was not lord of the adjacent castle, that I might do something towards diminishing the ignorance (and, it is to be feared, crime) which pervades this as well as so many other of the fairest rural districts of the south.

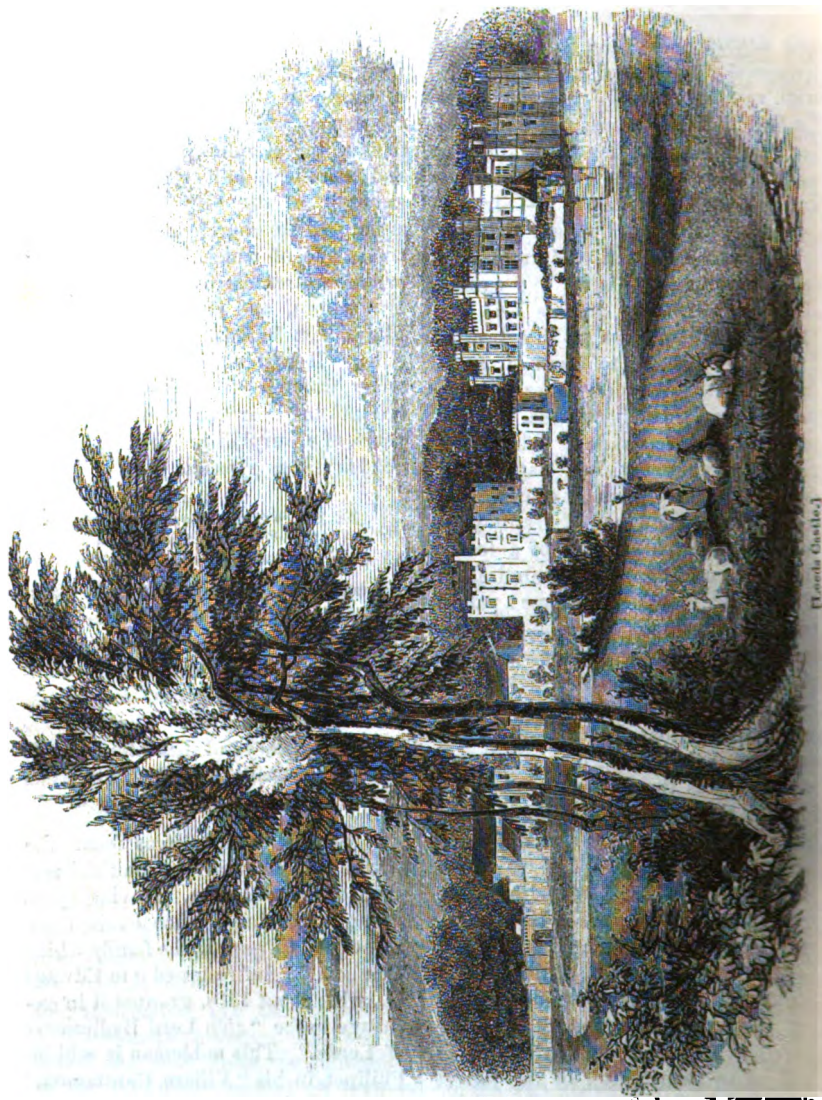
“Leeds church is an ancient and irregular structure, with a low tower of enormous dimensions, and offers in the *flatness* and *shallowness* of its buttresses, the simplicity of its design, and the solidity of its structure, a good example of the very early Norman style. In the churchyard are two yew trees, one of which is of the extraordinary circumference of 40 feet, hollow within, and shaped in the stem like a vast bulbous root of the lily tribe. It still vegetates on the exterior, which is curiously sheathed with the knotted overgrowths of a thousand years, of a purplish red colour; and its head is still as green as when—

‘it stood of yore,
Not loth to furnish weapons for the bands
• • • that crossed the sea
And drew their bows at Azincour.’”

Leeds Castle stands in a wild park, just outside of which runs the main road from Maidstone. It is an extensive pile of military architecture, principally of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries. There is little in its history beyond that attaching to every other similar building, which can

“— point a moral or adorn a tale.”

It passed several times from the crown to the favourites or faithful servants of the sovereign. Having by its strength and importance excited the jealousy of Edward I., the family which then held the fief resigned it to Edward II., who, about 1318, granted it in exchange to the “rich Lord Badlesmere of Leeds.” This nobleman is said by Philipot, in his “Villare Cantianum,” to have lost it by his castellan refusing

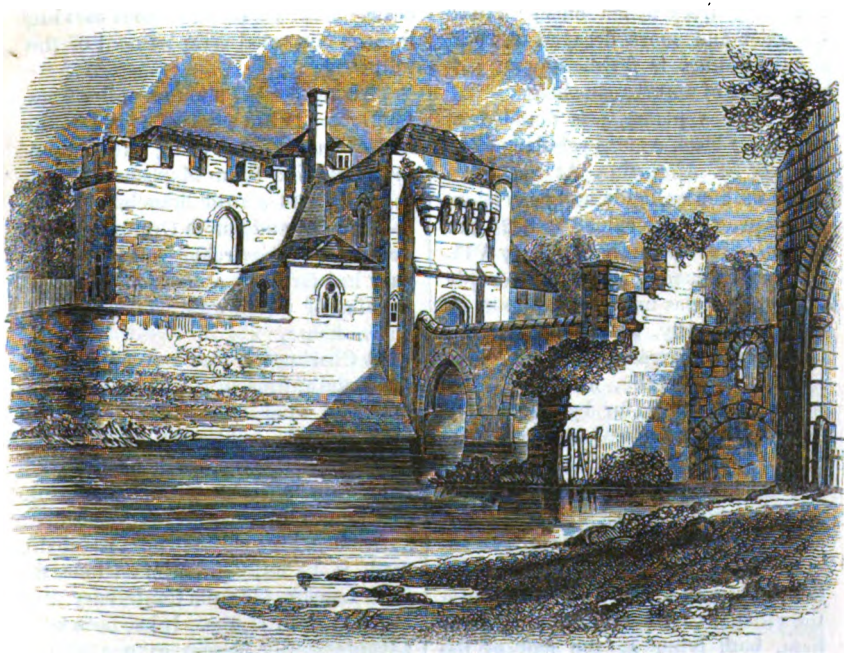


[Florida Castle.]

to receive Isabel, queen of Edward II., and her train, on a progress to Canterbury, because the messengers brought the castellain no authority from his lord. The king was so much incensed at this uncourteous treatment that orders were given to besiege the castle, which was taken, and the unfortunate keeper was hung. The lady and children of Lord Badlesmere were sent to the Tower, and Lord Badlesmere joined the barons then in arms, but he and his associates and their fol-

lowers being defeated by the royal forces, he was put to death at Canterbury. Some of the minor circumstances of this story are wanting to account for parts of the above statement. Perhaps Lord Badlesmere was on such terms with his sovereign that the queen's visit was regarded as a *ruse* to get possession of the castle. Several of the kings of England have visited or resided for a time at the castle.

The first stack of buildings on approaching the castle from the east con-



. [Leeds Castle, another View.]

sists of the remains of towers, once of almost impregnable strength; but (such is the perennial energy of the gentlest powers of nature) they are now sapped to their foundations by a stream of water from the surrounding moat, which is fed by a rivulet called the Len. In whatever point of view the castle is regarded, the most picturesque combinations are visible; the great lines are finely broken; the masses boldly projected; the colours chastely blended, and in many places beautifully relieved by groups of ash and other trees which cluster round the older and more decayed towers; and the picture is finished by an amphitheatre of umbrageous hills.

In 1119 a priory was founded at Leeds for black canons regular of the order of St. Augustine. At the dissolution the houses, lands, and possessions of the priory were valued at 362*l.* per annum. In the reign of Henry VII. the establishment had become deeply in debt, and was unable to support its usual hospitality, but it was relieved from these embarrassments by the liberality of Goldewelle, bishop of Norwich. The abbey (for by this name it has long been known) was a spacious building, and the church of great size and beauty; but of the former there are only a few remains, and none whatever exist of the abbey church.

Between Leeds and Charing, a distance of seven miles, we pass through the villages of Harrietsham and Lenham, both lying at the foot of the chalk-hills. The parish of Lenham

occupies the whole breadth of the valley between the chalk range and the opposite range of sand-hills. Where the town of Lenham stands the distance between the two ranges does not exceed two miles. The ancient market has been discontinued, but the fair is still held. The church at Lenham is a large handsome structure with a square tower. In the chancel are 16 stalls for the use of the monks of St. Augustine when they visited the estates which they held in this parish; and there is also a stone confessional chair. There is some curious carving in each octagonal compartment of the pulpit.

Charing is not quite four miles from Lenham. It is a place of considerable traffic, and besides being situated on the main line from Maidstone to the coast, there is a road branching off to Canterbury, and one to Cranbrook and Tenterden. The Archbishops of Canterbury had formerly a mansion here, the remains of which were converted into a farm-house.

At Charing the road leaves the chalk range and approaches the corresponding range of sand-hills, which terminate about a mile south-west of Ashford. The Earl of Thanet has a seat at Hotfield, on the right of the main road, three miles before we reach Ashford.

Ashford, a market-town on the main road, is 19 miles from Maidstone, 53 from London, 14½ from Canterbury, and about 11 from Hythe. It has been very advantageously chosen as one of the stations on the South-Eastern Railway.

being the key to several important country roads. The situation of this town is pleasant and healthy, being on a small eminence, with a gentle ascent to it on every side. The houses are well built, and the main street (through which the road passes) is of considerable width, and is paved. The market-house is in the centre of it, and the church on the south side. At the east end of the town is a stone bridge of four arches over the river Stour. The market is on Saturday. There is a monthly fair or market for the sale of fat and lean stock, held on the first Tuesday in the month; and there are, we believe, four other fairs. The population of the parish in 1831 was 2809.

Ashford is called in Domesday-book both *Eṣtefort* and *Essetesford*, and in other ancient records *Esшетisford*, taking its name from the *Eashe* or *Eschet*, a now obsolete designation of the west branch of the Stour from its source near Lenham to this place. The greater part of the parish constitutes what is termed "the liberty of the town of Ashford," and is separated from the jurisdiction of the hundred. It has a constable of its own. The town is governed by a mayor, and has a court of record every three weeks for all actions of debt or damages not exceeding twenty marks (*6l. 13s. 4d.*)

The church is in the form of a cross, with a tower rising from the centre, lofty and well-proportioned, and surmounted by four pinnacles. The church is in the perpendicular style, and has some good doorways and windows.

Several sumptuous monuments of the Smyth family are in a chapel adjoining the south transept. The tower was erected in the reign of Edward IV. by Sir John Fogge, who also much repaired, if he did not rebuild, the church; and founded a "college," or choir (consisting of the vicar as master or prebendary, two fit chaplains, and two lay clerks), which appears to have been suppressed before the Reformation. A chantry founded in the time of Edward III. was also suppressed during the progress of the Reformation. The living is a vicarage in the presentation of the dean and chapter of Rochester. There are places of worship for different denominations of dissenters: also two national schools, one for boys, and one for girls. Adjoining the church is a grammar-school of some repute, founded in the reign of Charles I. by Sir Norton Knatchbull. The master is still appointed by the Knatchbull family.

Chilham Castle is on the road from Ashford to Canterbury, about midway between the two places. It occupies a site on which there was probably a Roman building. After the Conquest a Norman castle was built here, of which the keep is the only part in good preservation. It is an irregular octagon of three stories, with walls 10 or 12 feet thick, built of flint, chalk, and stone intermingled, faced with squared stone, and now mantled with ivy. The interior has been much altered and damaged: the view from the platform is very fine.

At Wye, about three miles north-east

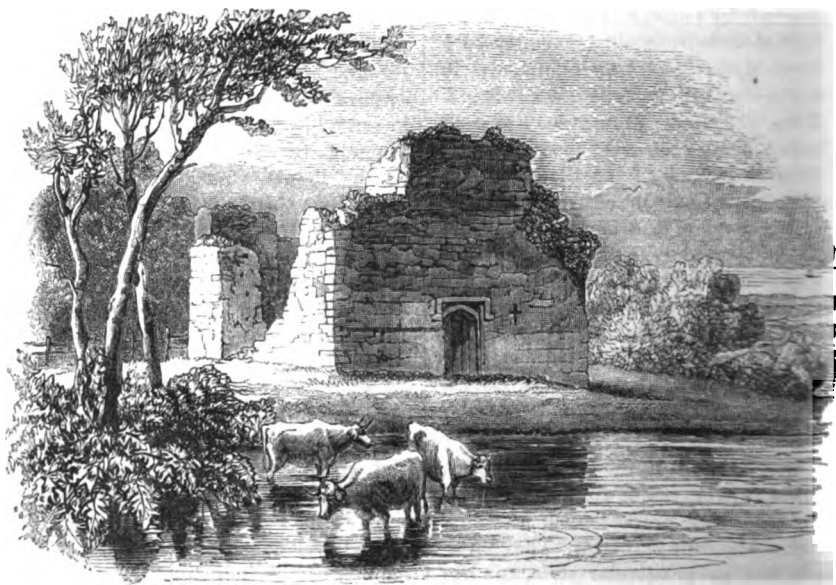
of Ashford, under the chalk-hills, was, before the Reformation, a college, the buildings of which, forming a quadrangle round an open court, are used for the purposes of two endowed schools. The market at Wye has been long discontinued.

The road from Ashford to Hythe, nearly 11 miles, occasionally presents very pleasing views. The adjacent country is watered by three streams, one of which is called the Old Stour. At Ashford they form one main stream. Just before reaching Hythe, on the borders of Romney Marsh, are West Hythe and Limpney or Limne, which

places are referred to in the notice of Hythe.

On the right of the road is Aldington. Richard Master, who was executed for aiding the imposture of the Holy Maid of Kent, had once the living (Chap. I.); and subsequently the famous Erasmus, of Amsterdam. The following cut is from an original drawing of Court-a-Street chapel, in this parish, where the Holy Maid uttered her prophecies in presence of the image of the Virgin, through which she pretended to receive her inspirations.

Hythe is rather more than 65 miles from London and 4½ miles from Folk-



[Ruins of Court-a-Street Chapel.]

stone. It is called in ancient records Hethe, and in Domesday Hede, from the Saxon *byð*, a haven. This town is supposed to owe its origin to the decay of West Hythe and Lympe or Limne (the *Portus Lemanis* of the Antonine Itinerary), which are now both inland. It was early a place of importance, being one of the Cinque-Ports, and having once had, according to Leland, a fair abbey and four parish churches. In the reign of Henry IV. the inhabitants of this town experienced such heavy calamities,—pestilence, conflagration, and shipwreck,—that they contemplated abandoning the place; but the king, by the grant of a liberal charter, induced them to remain. The parish of St. Leonard, Hythe, which coincides with the Cinque-Port, contains 860 acres, and had in 1831 a population of 2287, of which scarcely any part was agricultural. The town, which is at the foot of a steep hill or cliff about half a mile from the shore, consists chiefly of one long street parallel to the sea, with some smaller ones branching from it or parallel to it. The town-hall and market-place are in the centre of the town. The church is on the slope of the hill above the town: it is a cross church, very ancient, with a west tower. Some of the western part of the church is of Norman architecture: the eastern part is early English, of remarkably good design and execution: this part of the church has bold buttresses, and under it a remarkably fine groined crypt. There are two hospitals, or almshouses, in

Hythe, of ancient foundation. There are barracks at the east end of the town, a small theatre, and a public library and reading-room. The market is on Saturday. The corporation of Hythe, under the Municipal Reform Act, consists of four aldermen or jurats and twelve councillors. Hythe formerly returned two members to parliament; by the Reform Act it sends only one. The parliamentary borough includes the municipal borough, the liberty of the town of Folkstone, and the parishes of West Hythe, Saltwood, Cheriton, and Folkstone, and part of that of Newington. These limits include the watering-place of Sandgate. In 1840 there were 460 persons on the parliamentary register qualified to vote. The living of Hythe is a perpetual curacy united with the rectory of Saltwood; their joint annual value is 784*l.*, with a glebe-house; they are in the diocese of Canterbury, but exempt from the archdeacon's visitation.

At Westerhanger, or Westonhanger, about 2½ miles north of Hythe, are the remains of a castle and a small chapel.

About a mile north of Hythe are the ruins of Saltwood Castle; the outer walls, which are partly remaining, enclose an elliptical area of three acres. These walls were strengthened by several square or circular towers, now much dilapidated. The keep, or gate-house, which was almost entirely rebuilt by Courtenay, archbishop of Canterbury in the time of Richard II., is now occupied as a farm-house.

Sandgate, in the parish of Cheriton,

is situated midway between Hythe and Folkstone, and is much frequented in the bathing-season. The beach consists of shingle, and slopes gradually from the shore. There are warm baths, circulating libraries, and the usual attractions of a watering-place. The walks in the neighbourhood are very beautiful, particularly between Sandgate and Folkstone. The sea-view is also very fine, and embraces the opposite coast of France. The castle, built by Henry VIII., has been converted into a large martello tower. The military canal from Hythe to Rye commences about half a mile west of Sandgate. Cheriton, a little further inland, lies between the two ranges of the chalk and sand hills, which here approach within two miles of each other. The uplands are barren, but the valley consists chiefly of meadows, which are watered by several springs. The church commands an extensive marine view between the openings of the downs.

Folkstone is 70 miles from London and 35 from Maidstone. It has separate jurisdiction, being a member of the Cinque-Port of Dover. It was early a place of some importance: the Romans had a tower here on a high hill, of the earth-works or intrenchments of which there are yet some remains. By the Saxons it was called Folcestane; in Domesday, Fulchestan. There was a monastery, which had been destroyed by the Danes during or before the time of Athelstan. There was also a castle built by the Saxon kings of Kent, and rebuilt by the Normans, which has been

in later times nearly all destroyed, with the cliff on which it stood, by the encroachments of the sea. All that remains is a small part of the wall near the church.

The population of Folkstone in 1831 consisted of 4296 persons, of whom 3638 were in the town. Folkstone is situated on the shore of the English Channel, partly in a hollow between two cliffs, and partly on the west cliff. The streets are narrow, steep, and indifferently paved. The harbour, owing to the accumulation of shingle, is not capable of affording anchorage to many vessels. Many boats belong to it, which are engaged in the mackerel and herring fisheries. The church, which stands at the west end of the town, is a cross church of early English character, having a tower in the centre supported by strong piers. Mr. Cobbett calls it a little cathedral. The western end was partly blown down by a hurricane in December, 1705, and when rebuilt the dimensions were contracted. There are several dissenting places of worship. There was a Benedictine priory at Folkstone, originally alien, but afterwards made denizen. A gateway in the wall and some part of the foundations are all that remain of this building. The trade of the town is dull: fishing and smuggling are both on the decline. The market is on Thursday, and there is one yearly fair. The council under the Municipal Reform Act consists of four aldermen or jurats and twelve councillors. By the

Reform Act, Folkstone was made part of the parliamentary borough of Hythe. The market-house and the guildhall have been lately rebuilt. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, of the clear yearly value of 185*l*. Dr. William Harvey, who discovered the circulation of the blood, was born at Folkstone.

Dover is seven miles east of Folkstone. The walk along the cliffs is very delightful, and commands beautiful sea-views. On the right are lofty chalk cliffs, from which there is a view of the sea, and on the left the ground rises inland in the same sort of way, the road passing through the middle of the valley and descending the whole way to Dover. The width of this valley is about a mile and a half, and produces excellent crops of grain.

Mr. Cobbett says :—" I have often mentioned the chalk ridge, and also the sand ridge, which I had traced running parallel with each other, from about Farnham in Surrey to Sevenoaks in Kent. The reader must remember how particular I have been to observe that, in going up from Chilworth and Albury, through Dorking, Reigate, Godstone, and so on, the two chains or ridges approach so near to each other, that, in many places, you actually have a chalk-bank to your right, and a sand-bank to your left, at not more than forty yards from each other. In some places these chains of hills run off from each other to a great distance, even to a distance

of twenty miles. They then approach again towards each other, and so they go on. I was always desirous to ascertain whether these chains or ridges continued on thus to the sea. I have now found that they do ; and, if you go out into the channel at Folkstone, there you see a sand cliff and a chalk cliff. All the way along the chalk ridge is the most lofty, until you come to Leith Hill, and Hindhead ; and here, at Folkstone, the sand ridge tapers off in a sort of flat towards the sea. The land is like what it is at Reigate, a very steep hill ; a hill of full a mile high, and bending exactly in the same manner as the hill at Reigate does. The land to the south of the hill begins a poor, thin, white loam upon the chalk ; soon gets to be a very fine, rich loam upon the chalk ; goes on till it mingles the chalky loam with the sandy loam ; and thus it goes on down to the sea-beach, or to the edge of the cliff. It is a beautiful bed of earth here, resembling in extent that on the south side of Portsdown Hill rather than that of Reigate. The crops here are always good, if they are good anywhere. Upon the hill begins, and continues on for some miles, that stiff red loam, approaching to a clay, which I have several times described as forming the soil at the top of this chalk ridge. Everywhere the soil is the same upon the top of the high part of this ridge. I have now found it to be the same on the edge of the sea that I found it in the north-east corner of Hampshire."

CHAPTER XI.

LONDON TO TUNBRIDGE AND ROMNEY.

THIS road is parallel to the one noticed in the preceding chapter. Both commence at London and terminate at the sea-coast; but the London and Maidstone road for a considerable part of its course traverses the country bounded on the north-east by chalk hills and on the south-west by opposite ranges of ragstone hills. Our present route will take us through a district of a different formation. After crossing the chalk hills the soil consists for the most part of stiff and deep clays, a country famous for the oak, for woods and coppices, known as the Weald of Kent, and which, commencing in the neighbourhood of Westerham, terminates at Romney Marsh.

Leaving the London and Dover road at Deptford, we proceed for a short distance along the London and Maidstone road, but, before reaching Lee, branch off into the road to Sevenoaks and Tunbridge, and immediately afterwards pass through Lewisham and Bromley, and past the village of Hayes, which is on the right, to Keston Common and Farnborough. That part of the county between this road and Surrey has already been noticed in the excursion to the sources of the Ravens-

bourne (Chap. IV.). Before reaching Farnborough the road divides into two branches, one of which leads to Westerham through Keston.

Westerham, 21 miles from London, is near the source of the Darent, and in the valley of Holmesdale, between the chalk and the ragstone hills. The parish has an area of 5740 acres, and the population in 1831 was 1985, about two-fifths agricultural. The town is on a declivity; the principal street lies east and west on the road which runs from Maidstone along the valley of Holmesdale into Surrey. The church is a neat and tolerably spacious building, chiefly in the perpendicular style: it contains a neat cenotaph to the memory of General Wolfe. The living is a vicarage united with the parochial chapelry of Edenbridge: they are in the diocese and arch-deaconry of Rochester; their joint annual value is 608*l.*, with a glebe-house. There are one or two dissenting places of worship. The market is on Wednesday, and there is a yearly cattle-fair.

General Wolfe and Bishop Hoadley were natives of Westerham.

The road from London to Cuckfield

in Sussex is through Westerham and Edenbridge, the latter a considerable village, with the little river Eden flowing through it, five miles south of Westerham. The ragstone hills lie midway between Westerham and Edenbridge, and immediately on crossing them we are in the Weald of Kent. When the South-Eastern Railway is open there will no doubt be a station at the point where the railway intersects the road. Hever Castle and Penshurst will be easily visited from this station. The road passes into Sussex at the village of Cowden, about nine miles from Westerham, the boundary line between the two counties being formed by one of the feeders of the Medway.

Returning to the point where the Westerham road leaves the road to Sevenoaks, we proceed about two miles on the latter and reach Farnborough, 14 miles from London, on an elevated situation surrounded by hills. The church is a chapel of ease to Chelsfield church, the rector of the latter parish holding also the chapelry of Farnborough. The present church at Farnborough was rebuilt after having been nearly destroyed by a great storm in 1630.

About $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-east of Farnborough, and about a mile from the present road, is Knockholt, situated near the summit of the range of chalk hills which cross the county to Rochester. In the southern part of the parish is the clump of trees called Nockholt Beeches, which are visible at a

great distance from various parts of the country. Hasted states that they stand in a hollow about thirty feet in depth.

Crossing the chalk ridge we reach the village of Chevening, where the soil becomes fertile, and is watered by the river Darent. The church is rather handsome, consisting of three aisles and three chancels, and contains two fine altar tombs of the reigns of Philip and Mary, and James I., and a curiously engraved brass of the sixteenth century.

Before reaching Sevenoaks we cross the road from Westerham to Maidstone: it joins the London and Maidstone road at Offham, passing through Ightham, where are the traces of a Roman encampment.

Sevenoaks is 24 miles from London. This town, called in an ancient document *Seovanacca*, received its name from seven oak-trees which once occupied the eminence on which the town stands. The parish comprehends an area of 6790 acres (of which 1910 are in the liberty of Riverhead, and 3210 in the Weald liberty), with a population of 4709; about one-third agricultural. The town is situated on the northern brow of the chalk marl and greensand range of high lands, in the midst of a fertile and well cultivated district. It is well built, and contains a number of good houses. The church is spacious and elegant, and, from its situation on an eminence, forms a conspicuous object: it is chiefly in the perpendicular style.

There are several dissenting meeting-houses. At the south end of the town is the grammar-school, which has a good endowment; there is also a large range of almshouses: both these institutions owe their origin to Sir William de Sevenoke, a foundling, brought up by some charitable persons in this town, from which he took his name. There are two other well-endowed schools, founded by Lady Margaret Boswell, with a handsome school-house lately rebuilt. There were, in 1833, in Sir William de Sevenoke's grammar-school 31 boys (11 on the foundation); in Lady Boswell's schools, 215 children of both sexes. The market-house is an old building, in which the county assizes were held frequently during the reign of Elizabeth, and occasionally since. The market is on Saturday, chiefly for corn; there is a monthly cattle-market; and also two yearly fairs. There are some silk-mills in the neighbourhood. The living is a vicarage and sinecure rectory, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, of the clear yearly value of 935*l.*, with a glebe-house.

The road from Dartford to Sevenoaks, a distance of 13½ miles, along the valley of the Darent, and between the opening in the chalk hills through which the river passes, is one of the pleasantest in the county. The parish of Wilmington, immediately south of Dartford, is said by Hasted "to be aptly situated both for pleasure and health; the quantity of cherry-grounds which encircle the village contribute

much to the pleasantness of its appearance, and in the spring, when the trees are in blossom, it seems a continued range of gardens. Though it has much hill and dale in it, yet it is in general high ground, and has pleasing prospects from it over the neighbouring country." The church spire is conspicuous for many miles.

The next villages are Darent on the left and Sutton-at-Hone on the right. The latter was once so considerable as to give its name to the whole Lathe. The town was, it is said, called Suth-tuna in Latin, from its situation south of the town of Dartford, and had the addition of "At-Hone," from its low situation in the valley. In 1670 an orchard was planted here with the best sorts of apple and pear trees from Devonshire and Herefordshire, in order that their cultivation might be extended throughout the county. The church is little more than two centuries old, the ancient structure having been accidentally burnt down in 1615 by a person firing off a gun at a bird which had taken shelter in the church. There are several good monuments in the church. At Farningham, 5½ miles from Dartford, the Darent is crossed by a handsome bridge of four arches, erected about a century ago. The hills rise on each side from the meadows, and as you approach the village from these hills on either side it "forms one of the most beautiful and picturesque landscapes that can be imagined." The church contains an ancient font, with the seven sacraments of the church

of Rome carved upon it. In the year 1010 Archbishop Alphege gave Farningham to Christ Church in Canterbury, for the clothing of the monks there.

At the north of Eynsford, near the Darent, may be traced the site of an ancient castle. The church is supposed to be coeval with the castle. About a mile from Eynsford is Lullingstone. The church is ancient, and possesses numerous and interesting monuments. When Hasted wrote his history of Kent, about half a century ago, it was said of this church, from the excellent manner in which it was kept in repair, that "it resembles a nobleman's costly chapel more than a parochial country church." At this period there were but two houses in the village besides Lullingstone House.

Passing $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile east of Shoreham, a village situated in the gorge of the chalk hills through which the Darent flows, we reach Otford, $10\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Dartford. The greater part of the parish is in a low situation; and the village is in the valley at the foot of the chalk range. Two great battles were fought here, one in 773, when Offa, king of Mercia, endeavoured to subdue the kingdom of Kent; and the other in 1016, when Edmund Ironside marched after Canute, the Danish king, through Surrey, whom he encountered at Otford, and defeated, driving the Danes before him into the Isle of Sheppey. Hasted says:—"The fields here are full of the remains of those slain in these battles; bones are con-

tinually discovered in them, particularly when the new turnpike-road [the one we are pursuing] was widened in 1767, many skeletons were found on the chalk banks on each side. In 791, Offa, king of Mercia, gave Otford to the church of Canterbury, and it continued in possession of the see until the reign of Henry VIII., when it was exchanged by Cranmer for lands elsewhere. The archbishops of Canterbury had a house or palace here from the earliest times, adjoining to which they had two large parks, extensive woods, and other lands for their pleasure and convenience, in their own possession. (Hasted.) The site of the palace may still be discovered by the remains and rubbish of the foundations. The church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and before the Reformation his shrine here was much resorted to on account of the credit which the saint enjoyed for curing barrenness in women. Between Otford and Wrotham is Kemsing. The church is dedicated to St. Edith, and her image, which was set up in the church-yard, was once frequented by those who sought to avert blight and mildew from their corn and grain. St. Edith is said to have been born in this parish, and there is a well still called after her. There is no other place worthy of much notice between Otford and Sevenoaks. The Marquis Camden has a seat on the left, called the Wilderness.

While at Sevenoaks the tourist will doubtless visit the ancient manor-

house of Knowle, situated in an extensive park at the eastern end of Seven-oaks. The date of the erection of the earliest part of the mansion is unknown. In the time of King John, Baldwin de Bethun possessed the manor, and from him it passed successively into the hands of the Mareschals, earls of Pembroke, and the Bigods, earls of Norfolk. In the reign of Edward I., Otho de Grandison was its lord, and by his successors it was conveyed to Geoffrey de Saye, "admiral of all the king's fleets." Ralph Leghe appears to have been its next owner, by whom it was sold, in the reign of Henry VI., to James Fiennes, who was connected by marriage with its former possessors, the Sayes. He was a soldier who had distinguished himself in the war with France under Henry V., and was by Henry VI. summoned to parliament as Baron Saye and Sele. Honours came thick upon him: he was successively appointed governor of Dover Castle, warden of the Cinque Ports, chamberlain, and ultimately treasurer, of England. These dignities were dearly purchased by the ill-will and hatred of the people. When the rebellion headed by Jack Cade broke out, foremost among the nobles most obnoxious to the rebels was their countryman Lord Saye. He was accordingly committed to the Tower, probably for the double purpose of ensuring his safety, and gratifying, by the appearance of the king's disapprobation, those who were clamouring for his blood. He was, however, taken from thence by Cade, and, after a kind

of trial in the Guildhall, his head was struck off. Our readers will remember the scene in Shakspeare's Henry VI. illustrative of this tragedy, and the touching yet dignified defence of the doomed nobleman. Under other circumstances, the reasons given by Cade for his savage determination would be irresistibly ludicrous. He says to Lord Saye, "Thou hast most traitorously corrupted the youth of the realm in erecting a grammar-school; and whereas, before, our forefathers had no other books but the score and the tally, thou hast caused *printed* to be used: and, contrary to the king, his crown and dignity, thou hast built a paper-mill!" But a little time before, Cade had defeated the king's troops, and put their leaders to the sword, in the immediate neighbourhood of Knowle, Lord Saye's mansion.

In the civil wars the next Lord Saye was compelled to sell Knowle to Thomas Bouchier, archbishop of Canterbury. In the sale was included all the "tymbre, wood, ledde, stone, and breke" then lying in a quarry at Seale, intended probably by Lord Saye for the rebuilding of the mansion; and to which purpose the materials would doubtless be applied by the archbishop, who, says Hasted, rebuilt the manor-house, enclosed a park round it, and left it to his successors in the see. By two of these, Morton and William of Wareham, the structure was enlarged and beautified. Kings Henry VII. and VIII. each visited Knowle during this period. In the reign of the latter

Crammer gave up Knowle to the king. In the second year of the reign of Edward VI. it was granted to the protector Somerset, and, after his execution, to one no less unfortunate, the Duke of Northumberland, the relative of Lady Jane Grey. By Queen Mary it was granted to Cardinal Pole, "to hold during the term of his natural life, *and one year after*, as he should by his last will determine." The cardinal dying (on the same day as his royal mistress) intestate, Knowle again became the property of the crown, and was granted by Elizabeth to her favourite, the Earl of Leicester. By him it was surrendered back, in a few years, to the donor, though not before he had granted a lease for a term of years. At the expiration of the lease Knowle came into the possession of the family to which it has ever since belonged, the Sackvilles, to one of whom, Thomas Sackville, a distinguished poet and statesman, the reversion had been previously granted. He was the author of the first regular tragedy in our language, "*Gorboduc*," which was exhibited by the students of the Temple he then belonged to, as one of their Christmas entertainments. It was again exhibited, in 1561, before Queen Elizabeth. He was also the author of two poetical pieces in the "*Mirror for Magistrates*." These poems were composed whilst the author was yet but Thomas Sackville, afterwards to become, by Elizabeth's favour, Lord Buckhurst, and ultimately the first Earl of Dorset. Two anecdotes, illus-

trative of the pride of Sackville's character, have been recorded, though on no very certain testimony. He had spent, principally in an embassy to France, so much of his fortune by what Fuller calls his "magnificent prodigality," as to be compelled to borrow of a certain city alderman, who on one of Sackville's visits kept him waiting a considerable time. The indignity at once reclaimed him from his expensive habits. The other circumstance is in relation to his imprisonment in his own house, by the queen's commands, for nine or ten months. He had been sent into the Low Countries to examine the truth of the charges made against the Earl of Leicester, from whence he was recalled by the influence of the latter, and disgraced as we have mentioned. During this confinement, it is said he would not allow his wife or any member of his family to see him. The death of his enemy restored him to Elizabeth's favour, and on Burleigh's death he was appointed to the high office of lord-treasurer.

In 1613 a considerable portion of the house was burnt down. In the Commonwealth the estate and mansion were sequestrated by Cromwell, who held a court here (it is said, in the present dining-parlour) for the purpose. Our space will only permit us to notice another of the lords of Knowle—Charles Sackville, earl of Dorset, the wit, the poet, and the libertine of the court of Charles II., the Mæcenas of his time, whom Dryden and Butler, Wycherley and Congreve

at home, and St. Evremond and La Fontaine abroad, alike praised for his taste and judgment, his elegance and his generosity.

Of the magnificent state kept up in the good old days of Knowle we may have some conception from a catalogue of the household and family of Richard, earl of Dorset, about 1620, given in Bridgman's account of the mansion. From this it appears that for a considerable period there sat at the lord's table eight persons; at the parlour-table twenty-one, including ladies in waiting, chaplain, secretary, pages, &c.; at the clerks' table in the hall twenty, consisting principally of the heads of the different domestic departments; at the nursery-table four; at the long table in the hall forty-eight inferior servants; at the laundry-table twelve; and in the scullery, six.

The house stands in a park distinguished for the richness of its turf, and the stately grandeur of its oaks, its beeches, and its chestnuts. Its extent is considerable, being above five miles in circumference. The plantations are dispersed in broad and spacious masses. Deer, noted for their fine flavour, dart nimbly and shily to and fro. The surface, here smooth and level, there broken and undulating, is everywhere beautiful; and the eye, charmed with the green luxuriance around, almost forgets to look for the greater attraction that brought it hither. But soon the mansion breaks upon the view: we think (and step eagerly along the while) of its age and its pictures, of the

Sayes, the Cranmers, and the Sackvilles. The front is now before us. Two lofty embattled towers guard the gate of entrance in the middle, and on either side are spacious wings pierced with three stories of windows. The parts are plain, but the whole is imposing; and this character generally pervades the mansion.

The principal buildings, in addition to the two fronts with their embattled gateways, are in the form of a large quadrangle, with a smaller one behind, relieved in the mass by numerous square towers, the architecture being chiefly in the castellated style. In the quadrangle are casts from the *Gladiator* and the *Venus*. The lofty and extensive Gothic hall, with its characteristic-looking table fitted for playing the old English game of shuttle-board, its richly carved screen, its raised dais, and its stained glass, at once makes us centuries older: we not only think of, but feel with, the past. The loneliness seems suddenly to be broken, the bustle of countless attendants going in and out begins, the tables groan with the profusion of the feast, bright jewels and still brighter eyes begin to sparkle, gorgeous vestments and sacerdotal robes mingle together, the solemn strains of music peal forth—it is some high festival! Alas! of our imagination only, as we are soon convinced by the gentle hint of the domestic at our elbow, which we obey, and move forwards.

The noble proportions of the hall may be conceived when we state its



[Knowle Castle and Park.]

size: it is nearly 75 feet long, 27 broad, and 27 high. A statue, said to be (we conceive wrongly) of Demosthenes, now claims our attention: it is more characteristic of the calm but earnest philosopher, than the excited and exciting orator. It is considered one of the most perfect works of antiquity we possess: its simple truthfulness of expression delights us, and convinces us we ought to be delighted. There are here pictures by Rubens, Jordaens, and Snyders, and several family portraits. The Triumph of Silenus is one of Rubens's most powerful works: the face of Silenus, so richly inebriate, almost ready, you could fancy, to burst with the purple wine, the satyr leering over Silenus's shoulder, and the general vigour of the piece, make this painting alone worthy a visit to Knowle. The rude frescoes that decorate the staircase are evidently genuine restorations, and speak much for the directing taste.

In the Brown Gallery there is a collection of portraits, the extent of which alone entitles it to be considered most interesting and valuable. There is scarcely a celebrated person of the last two or three centuries whose picture may not be found included. Unfortunately the authenticity of many of the portraits is questionable: as works of art, also, they do not possess any high merit, most of them being considered as indifferent imitations of the style of Holbein.

In a dressing-room there are a Venus by Titian, a Salutation by Rembrandt,

a Satyr and Venus by Correggio, and a landscape by Salvator Rosa.

The billiard-room contains a fine portrait of Sir Kenelm Digby, by Vanduyck, and copies of Titian's wonderful pieces, the Diana and Calisto and the Diana and Actæon. There are here also a Masquerade Scene by Paul Veronese, a St. Peter by Rembrandt, and a landscape by Poussin. The window is embellished with the picture of a man on horseback, with an inscription to the founder of the Sackville family, who came over with William the Conqueror.

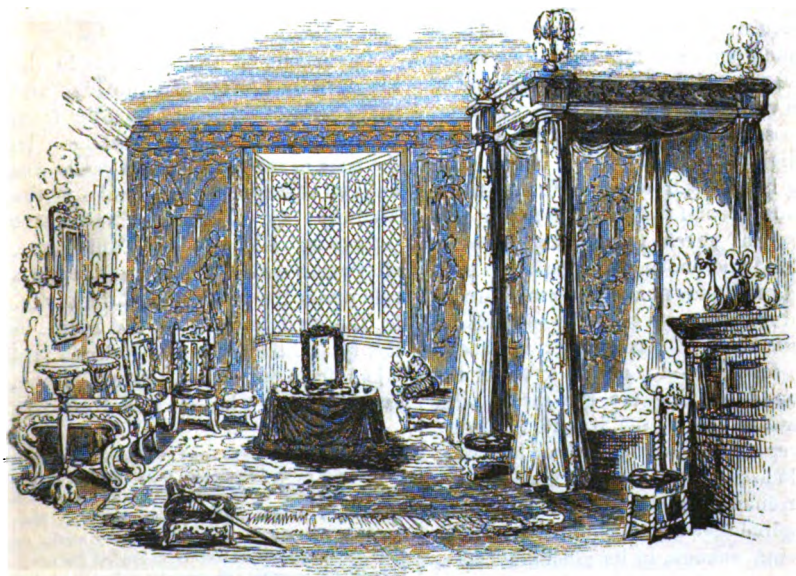
In the Venetian bed-room (so called from a Venetian ambassador, Nicolo Molino, having slept in it) is a glorious sketch, by Rubens, of Meleagar and the Boar; a portrait of Mrs. Abingdon, by Sir J. Reynolds; and the Death of Cleopatra, by Domenichino.

The ball-room contains portraits, among many others, of Edward, the fourth earl of Dorset, and of Ann, the third countess. The former killed Lord Bruce in a duel, in 1613, which was fought under circumstances of the most savagely ferocious nature; there being, for instance, no seconds, lest their interference might restrain the principals from the full and bloody consummation they meditated. The lady we notice as the writer of the following characteristic note to Charles II.'s secretary of state, in answer to a recommendation from him of a person to sit for her borough of Appleby:—"I have been bullied by an usurper, I have been neglected by a court, but I

will not be dictated to by a subject. Your man sha'n't stand. ANN—Dorset, Pembroke, and Montgomery." In the drawing-room is a portrait of a Chinese youth who came to England to be educated, and was placed at the school of Sevenoaks. Some more great works adorn with their imperishable beauty the walls of this apartment: a Holy Family, by Titian; the same subject by Paul Veronese; a Post-house, by Wouverman; the Rape of the Wife of Hercules, by Annibal Caracci; a head of Raphael, and a Sybil by Domenichino, &c. The mere enumeration of such subjects by such painters

would suffice to satisfy the lover of art that there must be much to delight him at Knowle.

In the dining or poet's parlour are portraits of nearly every distinguished poet of our country, a series that alike interests our national pride and our individual love and admiration. But we must pass on more rapidly, merely noticing in our way the chapel-room, with its carved work of our Saviour bearing the cross, said to be of one piece, and to have belonged to Mary Queen of Scots; the organ-room, containing, as we are informed, the first organ ever made (its very primitive



[James I.'s Bed-room at Knowle: the chairs are of a later date.]

construction certainly does not contradict the statement), being a large box with rude finger-keys on the top, outside; the great Cartoon gallery, containing a set of copies of the immortal Cartoons of Raphael; and lastly, the king's bed-room, in which is the gorgeous bed of gold and silver tissue, said to have cost 8000*l.*, and made for King James to rest in one night only. In a colonnade there are some fine pieces of sculpture: a fountain nymph asleep, from Roma Vecchia, and a head of Antinous, from Hadrian's villa, &c.

Quitting the mansion, we once more feel the fresh bracing air of the park playing about our brow. Sight-seeing, however worthy the objects, necessarily fatigues the mind by the continual calls made upon its admiration. Therefore well pleased do we stroll along one of the verdurous paths, careless which we choose in the certainty of finding all delightful. And what a scene presently breaks upon us! We are on the rising ground that skirts a gentle valley; the green murmuring forest is behind and above, whilst before, woods and heaths, towns and villages, churches and mansions, stretch away towards the distant hills of Hampshire: but above all, reposing on a gentle swell of the ground, making the eye gleam with pleasure but to see it, and the heart reverentially glad but to hear its name, is Penshurst, the home of the Sidneys; fair enough, as we now see it, to have inspired the 'Arcadia' of the poet, and solemn enough, in its gloomier hours, to have cherished the noble daring, the

firm resolve, and the unflinching fortitude of the patriot.

Shortly after leaving Sevenoaks we descend the slope of the ragstone hills into the Weald, where there is a considerable hamlet, called Sevenoak Weald. Hasted says, that when a parish extends below and the church is above the hill, the part below has the addition of Weald to its other name, as in the above instance. There is no place of interest between Sevenoaks and Tunbridge, a distance of about 6½ miles. Parallel to the road is one of the tributary streams of the Medway, and the country becomes low and moist, though said to be very healthy. The soil is particularly favourable to the oak, which grows to a large size.

Tunbridge, or Tonbridge, is in the liberty of the Lowey* of Tunbridge, and in the lathe of Aylesford, 30 miles from London, and 14 from Maidstone. In the time of the Conqueror a castle was built on this spot on the banks of the Medway by Richard Fitz-Gilbert (otherwise Richard de Tunbridge), afterwards earl of Clare; and the town rose under the protection of the castle. In the civil troubles of the reign of Henry III. the castle was besieged and taken from its owner, Gilbert Rufus, earl of Clare, Glo'ster, and Hertford.

* Hasted says:—"The Lowy of Tunbridge is called in old Latin deeds 'Districtus Lucas de Tonebrige' and in the book of Domesday 'Leoua Ricarda de Tonebrige.' It was anciently the custom in Normandy to term the district round an abbey, castle, or chief mansion, leuca, or leucata, in English the lowy, in which the possessor had generally a grant of several peculiar liberties, privileges, and exemptions.

by Prince Edward. During the siege the garrison burnt the town. There was also a priory at Tunbridge, founded by Richard de Clare, first earl of Hertford, in the time of Henry I., for canons of St. Augustin, the revenue of which at the suppression was 169*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* The parish comprehends 14,730 acres, and has a population of 10,380, about one-fourth agricultural. The town consists chiefly of one street, broad, partially paved, and, from its being on a declivity, clean. There are several bridges over the Medway, which is here divided into various arms. Near the principal bridge is a wharf, where the timber brought from the Weald is sent down the Medway. The church, which is near the centre of the town, is a large and handsome fabric, in various styles of architecture. There is a free school, founded by Sir Andrew Judd, and richly endowed: it has 16 exhibitions of 100*l.* per annum each, tenable at any college of Oxford or Cambridge, besides 13 other exhibitions, and a fellowship at St. John's College, Oxford. In 1833, 100 boys (60 of them on the foundation) were instructed in Judd's endowed grammar-school. There are a town-hall and market-house. The ruins of the castle, which are near one of the bridges, consist of an entrance gateway, flanked with round towers, and tolerably perfect, and of the artificial mound on which the keep stood; the outer walls enclosed an area of six acres. The ruins of the priory consist principally of the refectory, now converted into a

barn. There is a weekly market on Friday, and a monthly cattle-market; also one yearly fair. The trade of the town is in coal and timber brought from Maidstone for the supply of the neighbourhood: gunpowder and wooden wares (which last take their name from the town) are made to a small extent. The living is a vicarage in the diocese and archdeaconry of Rochester, of the clear yearly value of 763*l.*, with a glebe-house.

There is a road to Tunbridge which branches from the London and Maidstone road just before reaching Wrotham, 8½ miles from Tunbridge, passing through Igham and Shipborne. Igham is in the valley between the chalk and ragstone hills. The parish is little more than a mile in width, but its length is nearly five miles. The Roman military way crossed the parish from Offham, and at Oldberry Hill are the remains of an intrenchment, comprising a space of 137 acres, in the middle of which are two springs of good water. The form of the encampment can now scarcely be traced; but a plan of it may be seen in Hasted, (vol. v.) Shipborne is situated south of the ragstone hills, and is consequently in the Weald. Fairlawn Park in this parish is skirted by the road. Hasted describes part of the parish as "a deep and miry country at all times, most of it being exceedingly unpleasant either to live in or travel through." The church was rebuilt at the commencement of the last century.

The road from Tunbridge to Maid-

stone passes through Hadlow, and between East and West Peckham; and, leaving Mereworth on the left, proceeds through Watlingbury, Teston, and Barming. The neighbourhood of Hadlow presents some of the least agreeable features of the Weald, being flat, low, and swampy. The soil is generally a stiff clay, and produces large oaks. The ragstone hills constitute the northern boundary of the parish of West Peckham, which with that of East Peckham is in the Weald. Mereworth, on the left of the road, is very pleasantly situated on the verge of the ragstone hills. It is backed by extensive woods on the north, and commands a pleasing view of the valley of the Medway. Mereworth House was built after a plan of Palladio. There is a noble avenue, three miles in length, through the park to Wrotham Heath and the London road. The church was rebuilt in the last century by Earl Westmoreland, at the time that he erected Mereworth House. Mr. Cobbett, in his 'Rural Rides,' says that, from Mereworth to Maidstone "are the finest seven miles that I have ever seen in England or anywhere else;" and he thus describes this part of the country:—"The Medway is to your right, with its meadows, about a mile wide. Then, looking across the Medway, you see hop-gardens and orchards two miles deep on the side of a gently rising ground; and this continues with you all the way from Mereworth to Maidstone. The orchards form a great feature of the country,

and the plantations of ashes, and of chesnuts add greatly to the beauty." Hasted describes the same tract of country as "exceedingly beautiful, the river Medway meandering its silver stream in the valley beneath. The fertility of the soil, the healthiness of the air, the rich variety of prospect, adorned by a continual range of capital seats, with their parks and plantations, form altogether an assemblage of objects in which nature and art appear to have lavished their choicest endeavours." Before reaching Maidstone we pass through the other villages mentioned as lying on the road to that town, namely, Watlingbury, pleasantly situated in a fruitful soil, and Teston, in a still more agreeable situation, on the declivity of a hill sloping to the Medway. Teston House commands many agreeable prospects. The two Farleighs (East and West) are on the right, on the south side of the Medway, occupying the declivity of a hill, the sides of which are covered with hop-grounds and orchards. The name in Saxon signified the place of the way or passage. The Medway is now crossed by Teston Bridge, which consists of seven lofty stone arches, notwithstanding which it is sometimes rendered impassable, the river having been known to rise eighteen feet in the course of twenty-four hours, but it subsides with equal rapidity. Barming is on the northern side of the river, opposite East Farleigh. It is rich in the fruits of the orchard, the corn-field, the hop-plantation, and is adorned by magnifi-

cent trees of oak and elm—a land of beauty and plenty.

Again setting out from Tunbridge, we find Tunbridge Wells on the verge of the county, not quite six miles south of Tunbridge. Midway between these two places, a road diverging on the right leads to Penshurst and also to Hever Castle, both which places may be conveniently visited either from Tunbridge or the Wells.

At Southborough, three miles from Tunbridge, a new district church has been erected, and there is an endowed free school. The place consists of a number of scattered houses.

Tunbridge Wells, as already stated, is upon the border of Kent and Sussex, part of it being in each county. It extends into the parishes of Speldhurst (Kent), and Frant (Sussex), but is chiefly in that of Tunbridge. The population cannot be given distinct from that of the parishes in which the town is situated. The chalybeate spring, to which the town owes its origin, was first noticed in the reign of James I., by Dudley Lord North, who had been residing in the neighbourhood for the recovery of his health. The benefit which he derived from the water brought the spring into notice; the wells were sunk, paved, and enclosed, but the visitors found accommodation at Tunbridge town. The water is chalybeate, and nearly equal in strength to that of Spa, in Germany. The soil is dry, and the air of the place is healthy, though cold. When Henrietta, queen of Charles I.,

visited the Wells, she and her suite remained under tents. By degrees, however, permanent habitations were erected in the immediate vicinity of the wells, and at the neighbourhood of Southborough and Rusthall. After the Restoration the place rapidly increased. A chapel was built at Tunbridge Wells, dedicated to King Charles the Martyr; a subscription school was also established, and an assembly-room, coffee-house, bowling-greens, and other places of amusement, were erected in the neighbourhood. The town has much increased of late years. The Wells, properly so called, are in the centre of the town, and near them are the markets, the chapel, the assembly-rooms, and the public walks or parades. There are a theatre, libraries, and the other usual requisites of a watering-place. Different groups of houses are distinguished by the names of Mount Zion, Mount Ephraim, Mount Pleasant, and Bishop's Down. About a mile and a half south-west from the Wells, in the county of Sussex, are the High Rocks, which present a striking and romantic scene. They are much resorted to by visitors from the Wells, and command some extensive views. The neighbourhood of Tunbridge Wells is extremely picturesque and beautiful, and the rides and walks form one of the great attractions of the place. The "season" commences in spring, and terminates late in the autumn.

The old church at Speldhurst was burnt down in 1791. Over the porch

of the ancient edifice were the arms of the Duke of Orleans. He was detained here a prisoner twenty-five years, and contributed liberally to the repairs of the church. The chapel at Tunbridge Wells has been enlarged since its first erection, and stands partly in each of the three parishes. There is a new church lately erected in Tunbridge parish, and there are some dissenting meeting-houses. Tunbridge Wells is famous for toys and small articles turned in holly, plum-tree, cherry-tree, sycamore, and various foreign woods.

Tunbridge Wells is on the road from London to Hastings, 36 miles from London. There is a road to Maidstone through Yalding, which at Teston joins the road from the town of Tunbridge to Maidstone, already noticed.

The road from Penshurst branches out of the road between Tunbridge and the Wells about the third milestone. Penshurst is about three miles from this diverging point.

Penshurst is in the Weald, and is famous for its fine oak-trees. The parish is watered by the river Eden, and contains chalybeate springs, one of which, in Penshurst Park, is said to be more powerful than the springs at Tunbridge Wells. The family of Sidney became possessed of the manor of Penshurst in the reign of Edward VI. Sir Philip Sidney was born here in 1554, and there is an oak-tree in the park which was planted at his birth, at least it has been celebrated both by

Ben Jonson and Waller from this circumstance, and the tradition is probably true. Sir Philip Sidney, whom Queen Elizabeth styled "the jewel of her times," was killed at the siege of Zutphen, in 1586, at the early age of thirty-two, and lies buried in St. Paul's. The noble and touching anecdote related of him as he was borne from the field in an exhausted state from excess of bleeding is admirably characteristic of his fine spirit. Calling for drink, it was brought to him in a bottle, and as he was raising it to his parched lips, a soldier, still more dangerously wounded, was observed by Sidney to fix his ghastly and imploring looks upon him. He immediately handed the bottle to the poor soldier, simply saying, "Thy necessity is greater than mine!" His dying words to his brother Sir Robert Sidney, afterwards Earl of Leicester, are too beautiful to be omitted in any sketch of his life, however short:—"Love my memorie; cherish my friends; their faith to me may assure you they are honest. But, above all, govern your will and affections by the will and word of the Creator; in me beholding the end of this world with all its vanities." The poet Campbell has beautifully described Sidney's life as "poetry put into action." His contemporaries deemed him not only a highly accomplished scholar, and a gallant and most true-hearted gentleman, but also a great statesman, a greater warrior, and with scarcely an exception the greatest of living poets. Sidney's principal

work, 'The Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia,' as it has been affectionately designated by himself, in compliment to his sister, to whom it was inscribed, was not published until after his death; and his other most celebrated prose work, 'The Defence of Poesy,' appeared a year or two later. His collection of sonnets and songs, entitled 'Astrophel and Stella,' also appeared after his death.

Penshurst Place is a fine old mansion of quadrangular form, enclosing a spacious court. The great hall, the chapel and state-rooms, are both splendid and interesting, and are adorned with rare portraits and paintings by eminent masters. The park is ornamented by a noble sheet of water called Lancup Well, and is famous for its oaks.

A mile or two west of Penshurst is the old and romantic village of Chiddingstone, situated in a well-wooded country. Several places within the parish obviously derive their names from the period when wild-boars were numerous in the neighbouring forests. Still farther westward, rather more than a mile from Chiddingstone, is the village of Hever, situated on the brow of a hill, at the foot of which the Eden, a small but well-watered branch of the Medway, winds pleasantly through a cultivated vale, and, at the distance of about a quarter of a mile, encircles and adds to the defence of what was once the stronghold of the *Hevres*, the founders of Hever Castle. The road from Westerham to this

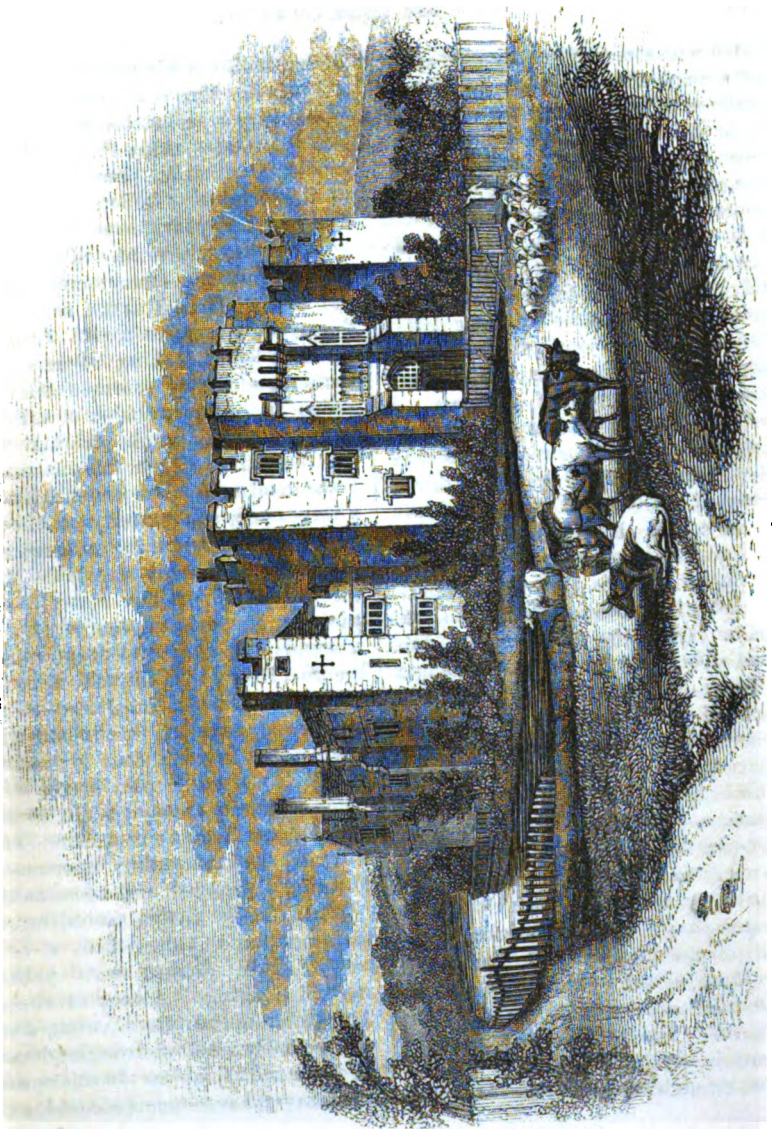
spot descends a hill, from the top of which, as tradition reports, Henry VIII., on his visits to Anne, is said to have sounded his bugle, as a signal of his approach. This may pass as an agreeable embellishment of the story of their courtship. The village, like so many others in Kent, exhibits few signs of active life. The population is even less than it was some twenty years ago, and although some five or six cottages have been built during that period, there are in too many instances more than one family residing in each house; there being in fact, according to the census of 1831, 102 families in 73 houses.

Hever Castle became the seat of the Boleyns in the fifteenth century, having been purchased by the great grandfather of Anne Boleyn, a wealthy mercer of London, who was lord-mayor in 1459. It was the occasional residence of Anne Boleyn before she became the wife of Henry VIII. She was at Hever when she received an intimation from her father of his successful endeavours to have his daughter placed under Queen Catherine. Her reply in French is still extant. She went to court shortly afterwards, at the age of little more than twenty, and soon excited the susceptible feelings of the king. Wolsey's policy was to exclude from the royal presence any one whom Henry was likely to regard with too much favour; and Anne, after a short absence, returned to Hever, unconscious, it is said, of the king's regard for her. Again recalled to court,

she soon afterwards, between July and October, 1527, received from Henry himself a declaration of his attachment. In May, 1528, she was at Hever, and received letters from the king, and he appears to have visited her here, and to have prevailed upon her to return to court, a determination which she subsequently changed. Henry's letters to Anne during this period are manly, sensible, and tender, and six years' anxiety respecting his divorce with Catherine kept alive his affections, which might otherwise have cooled. It was not until January 25, 1533, that his marriage with Anne took place; on the 1st of June she was crowned; on the 13th September she had a daughter, afterwards Queen Elizabeth. In little more than three years the picture is reversed. On the 1st of May, 1536, the queen was suddenly arrested and examined, and on the day following sent to the Tower; her trial followed on the 15th of the same month, and on the 19th she was executed, at the age of twenty-six, the very prime of womanhood, after having once been the object of the romantic affection of her sovereign. On the death of Anne's father, whom Henry had created Earl of Wiltshire, Hever became the property of the crown, and when subsequently he had divorced Anne of Cleves, it was granted to her, with the manor, for the term of her natural life, so long as she should remain in England. Here she resided, and several of her letters are dated from the castle, where she died in 1556, having proba-

bly passed her life here more tranquilly and happily than she did the short period during which she resided in the palaces of her cruel and capricious husband. In the following year the property was sold by commissioners appointed by the crown. Thus the castle at Hever is connected with the history of two of the unfortunate queens of Henry VIII.

We are indebted for the following description of Hever Castle, in its present state, to the same friend who favoured us with an account of his visit to Leeds Castle:—"Hever Castle affords a good example of those residences which arose out of the disturbed state of society during the earlier periods of our history after the Conquest, which suffered a partial dilapidation during the conflicts of the factions of York and Lancaster, and once more rose, in less martial forms, under the governments of Elizabeth and James. It was in the reign of Edward III. that William de Hevre obtained the king's licence to 'embattle his manor-house.' It consists of 'a castle,' to which a quadrangular house is attached, the whole surrounded by a moat, beyond which several outbuildings, now used as barns, were arranged, to meet the wants of extra visitors, and the many festivals, religious and secular, of those 'good old times.' The elevation or front of the castle is composed of a central keep, pierced by a gate, crowned by strongly projecting machicolations, and flanked by two square towers. The face of the keep is deco-



[Haver Castle.]

rated with some well-executed tracery, of a much later date than the massive walls on which they repose. The gate is of vast strength, and seems to have been the point, of all others, on which the architect bestowed the utmost resources of his defensive skill. First, a deep-browed doorway is passed, defended by a strong portcullis and two thick oaken doors, barred, bolted, and studded with iron nobs: immediately behind these are two guard-rooms, in which a dozen men-at-arms might long dispute the passage of a breach. A broad avenue of solid masonry succeeds, and leads straight forward to a second portcullis, and these again to a third; occupying altogether the whole depth of the castle. Most of these works are in a good state of preservation; in two of the portcullises, the original doors, wickets, knockers, gratings, still remain. Over the external gate, immediately under the battlements, about a dozen machicolations project boldly forward, from which red-hot lead or other missiles might have been discharged on the heads of assailants. These gates lead the visitor into a spacious court-yard, formed on three sides by the house, which is built in the very early Tudor style, and on the fourth by the castle. The court is neatly paved with red bricks fancifully disposed. The fronts of the house are stuccoed, but were formerly richly embossed and painted with quaint patterns. The entrance to the apartments is usually made by the back-front, through what was once the great

dining-hall, but which is now used as a kitchen. This is a most interesting place, very spacious, being 90 feet by 30: it contains many fine specimens of old tables, safes, presses, &c., part of the original 'Bullen' furniture. The walls appear formerly to have been covered with arms, and decorated with antlers and other memorials of the chase. Here I found several of the farmer's servants seated at one of the long tables, making havoc with a mutton pudding of enormous size, rivalled by a huge trencher of turnip-tops. A bulky apple-pudding was also in waiting. From this apartment I was conducted to the grand staircase, a very tawdry affair, utterly out of character with the rest of the building, and furnished with some execrable pictures,—one of them a portrait, apparently, of Cooke as Richard III. I was told by the attendant it represented the cruel Henry VIII. himself. Leaving the staircase, several small ante-rooms are passed, panelled throughout with oak, and at length a door is reached at which the guide pauses, and with much solemnity announces the threshold of Anne Boleyn's bedroom. This is really an interesting apartment, beautifully panelled, and contains the original family chairs, tables, muniment-box, and Anne's bed, a very heavy affair, dressed with yellow damask hangings. A door in one of the corners opens into a strong dark cell, probably a sort of strong cupboard for plate and valuables. In this apartment, several ante-rooms succeed, and

the suite terminates in a grand gallery occupying the whole length of the building, in which the judicial meetings and social gatherings of the ancient family were held. It is about 150 feet in length by 20 feet in width, with a vaulted roof, and panelled throughout with rudely-carved oak. On one side, placed at equal distances apart, are three recesses; the first, having a flight of three steps, is fitted up with elbowed benches, where the lord of the castle in old times held his courts, and where Henry is said, on the occasion of his visits, to have received the congratulations of the gentry. A second was occupied by the fire; and the third was used as a quiet corner for the old folks, while the younger ones frolicked through the mazes of a dance. At one end of this gallery a trap-door leads to a dark chamber, called the dungeon, in which the family are believed to have sheltered themselves in 'time of trouble;' although it is manifest that the height of the rooms, compared with that of the building, must have betrayed its existence to even a careless observer. Besides the foregoing, there are numerous apartments inhabited by the tenant and his servants, but to which the public are not admitted.

"The interior of the castle is approached by a well-constructed winding stair in one of the towers, which opens into a number of little slit-windowed chambers, from which the archers could annoy their assailants. About midway the staircase opens into

the narrow vestibule of the great state-room. This is a lofty and nobly-proportioned hall, of nearly the whole width of the castle, panelled with richly-carved mahogany, which, together with the furniture, has recently undergone a most judicious restoration. The Gothic tracery over the fireplace is extremely beautiful, both in design and execution. It consists of two angels, each bearing two shields, showing the arms and alliances of, 1. The Carey and Boleyn families; 2. Carey and Waldo; 3. Boleyn and Howard; 4. Henry VIII. and Boleyn. Upon the walls a number of ancient and modern family portraits are displayed, of little interest, save one of Anne Boleyn herself, and which my attendant said represented her in the dress in which she was executed. The countenance is of a placid, commonplace character. This room has a fine music-gallery, and a small withdrawing-room, now fitted up as a library. The needle-worked chairs, screens, and settees are most beautiful, and formed part of the original furniture. The place belongs at present to Lady de Waldo, a resident in London, to whom strangers are under much obligation for the liberality with which they are admitted whenever they apply.

"In the church, to the left of the chancel, stands an altar-tomb to the memory of Sir Thomas Boleyn, first earl of Wiltshire. The top slab is inlaid with a remarkably fine brass, representing the earl in the full costume of a Knight of the Garter. In the



[Queen Anne Boleyn.—From a painting by Holbein.]

neighbouring church of Penshurst is also a brass monument for two of his sons, who died young."

Once more setting out from Tunbridge, and for the last time, we continue our course to Cranbrook and Tenterden, and towards the coast. On the left, between Tunbridge and Lambethurst, are the villages of Tudeley, Capel, Pembury, and Brenchley. These places do not afford a favourable specimen of the Weald. They

are chiefly situated in low grounds in the valley of the Medway and some of its small tributary streams, and are consequently damp and moist. The soil is chiefly a deep, stiff clay, and in winter the roads are scarcely passable, while in summer they become baked, and are smooth and as hard as iron. These four parishes abound with coppices, and the hedge-rows are broad and consist of a growth of underwood and large spreading oak-trees, and,

excepting in summer, the country has a gloomy appearance. The villages and hamlets are obscurely situated and are little frequented. The houses are chiefly built of timber, and some of them, especially in the village of Brenchley, are of large size, and a few are of ancient date. This part of the Weald probably presents much the same sort of appearance which it had three or four centuries ago, and on this account the tourist may look upon its villages and hamlets and farm-houses with an eye of interest. At Tudeley there will probably be a second-class station on the South-Eastern Railway.

Lamberhurst is 10 miles from Tunbridge. A stream which rises in Waterdown Forest, Sussex, and runs into the Medway, divides the parish, and here forms the boundary of the county: the greater part of the parish of Lamberhurst is in Sussex. Hasted says that it takes its name from the soft clay on which it is situated and the woods with which it is covered, *Lam*, in Saxon, signifying a soft loam or clay, and *hurst*, a wood. The neighbourhood contains iron ore in considerable abundance, and before the smelting of the ore was effected by means of coal there were furnaces here, and works for casting. In 1698 the duke of Gloucester visited a furnace at Lamberhurst, which was afterwards called Gloucester Furnace, in honour of this event. The iron rails round St. Paul's Churchyard, London, were cast at this furnace. Soon afterwards the smelting

and manufacture of iron was gradually transferred to the coal-fields of the midland and northern counties. In the Sussex part of the parish is Bayham Abbey, a seat of the Marquis Campden; it was founded about the year 1200. Scotney Castle, an ancient seat situated in a deep vale on the banks of the Beulth, surrounded by woods, is in the parish. There is a road from Lamberhurst to Maidstone, 14 miles distant, through Horsemonden, Yalding, and Teston; also a road to Rye, which leaves the county at Lamberhurst, crossing a small projecting part of Sussex, and then re-entering Kent, and passing through Hawkhurst and Newenden, where it crosses the Rother into Sussex. The London and Hastings road branches off from the road to Rye before reaching Hawkhurst.

Our course, after leaving Lamberhurst, is through Goudhurst, not quite three miles distant. It was formerly a market-town, and one of the places where the clothing trade was first established, and there are two endowed schools in the town. The church, situated on one of the steepest hills in this part of Kent, is large and handsome. The churchyard commands a view of about 25 miles in diameter over a very fine country. The road from Maidstone to Hastings passes through Goudhurst. About four miles beyond Goudhurst is Cranbrook, the principal town in the Weald of Kent. It is 48 miles from London Bridge. The parish comprehends 10,460 acres, and had in

1831 a population of 3844, about half agricultural. The town of Cranbrook is irregularly built. The church is a large and handsome edifice in the perpendicular style, with good buttresses and fine windows: it is advantageously situated on a small eminence near the centre of the town. There are several dissenting meeting-houses. Cranbrook was once the centre of the clothing trade, introduced by the Flemings, whom the policy of Edward III. induced to settle in this country. Since the removal of this branch of industry to the North and West of England, Cranbrook has been a mart for the agricultural produce of the neighbourhood, especially hops. The market, which is now held on Wednesday, is chiefly for corn and hops; every fortnight there is a cattle-market. The living is a vicarage in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, of the clear annual value of 163*l.*, with a glebe-house. In the parish of Cranbrook are the ruins of Sissinghurst, a fine mansion, formerly the residence of the Baker family. From having been used as a French prison during one of the wars of the last century, it acquired the inappropriate name of Sissinghurst Castle. In the hamlet of Milkhouse Street, in this parish, are the remains of an ancient chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity. Cranbrook is one of the polling stations for the western division of the county.

Cranbrook is connected by two branches with the Maidstone and Hastings road. From the point of junc-

tion with this road, it passes northward through Staplehurst, and about six miles from Maidstone is joined by the road from Hastings through Goudhurst, shortly after which it crosses the Beulth, and next the chalk hills, between the villages of Hunton on the west, and Boughton Mounchelsea and Pinton on the east; southward from the above-mentioned point the road passes through Benenden, Rolvenden, and Newenden, three very pretty villages, when it crosses the Rother into Sussex.

Tenterden is reached by a circuitous road from Cranbrook. The town has a separate jurisdiction, being a member of the cinque-port of Rye. It is 55 miles from London, on the road through the Weald of Kent to Romney. The parish comprehends 8620 acres, and had, in 1831, a population of 3177, about half agricultural. The town stands on an eminence, in a rich agricultural district, upon which it depends: it consists of one main street along the Romney road, and contains some good houses. The church is a spacious and handsome edifice, chiefly of perpendicular character, having a lofty tower at the west end, to which a beacon was formerly attached. It has been a popular saying that "Tenterden steeple was the cause of Goodwin Sands." This has been supposed to originate from the circumstance of the funds destined for keeping up Sandwich haven having been applied to the building of this church. There are some dissenting places of worship.

There is a town-hall, a modern building, sometimes used as an assembly-room. The market is on Friday, and there is a yearly fair. When the clothing trade was carried on in the Weald of Kent this town was one of the manufacturing places. Tenterden was incorporated by Henry VI. The corporation, under the Municipal Reform Act, consists of four jurats or aldermen, and twelve councillors. The living is a vicarage, in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, of the clear yearly value of 177*l*.

From Tenterden there is a road to Maidstone, 19 miles, through Biddenden, Smarden, and Hedcorn, where it crosses the Builth, and between the villages of Chart Sutton and Sutton Valence, on the ragstone hills, and thence through Langley. The road to Ashford, 12½ miles, is through High Halden, Bethersden, and Chart Magna.

Leaving Tenterden, we cross the military canal from Hythe to Rye, at Appledore, six miles from Tenterden, a place of some importance in the Saxon times. We are now in Romney Marsh, one of the most singular districts in the south of England. The road lies through Snargate, a village with about half a dozen houses, and Brenzett, another small village equally mean in appearance, and next arrive at Old Romney, from which New Romney is 2½ miles distant. Here we reach the place of our destination, 70 miles from London.

The name of Romney appears to be of Saxon origin. The etymology

given by Lye is *Rumen-æa*, from *Rume*, wide, spreading, *q. d.* the spreading water or marsh. Perhaps it may be from *Rumen ege*, "the island in the flat or marsh," a spot sufficiently elevated from the surrounding marsh to be dry being termed an island, or "ey," by the Saxons. New Romney appears to have risen before the time of Edward the Confessor, from the decay of Old Romney (more inland), the haven of which was deserted by the sea. The haven of New Romney being commodious and well frequented, the town became important, and was made one of the Cinque-Ports, perhaps in the place of Old Romney, which, with Lydd, Denge Marsh (extending to Denge Ness), and Oswardestone, were added to it as subordinate members. But the Rother, which then entered the sea at this place and formed its harbour, having forsaken its channel (in the reign of Edward I.), the harbour was choked up with beach, and the town went to decay. In its flourishing time it is said to have been divided into twelve wards, and to have had five parish churches, as well as a priory and an hospital, of both which there are some remains. At present it is an insignificant place, built on a soil of gravel and sand, slightly elevated above the surrounding country. It consists chiefly of one wide, well-paved street, with a market-house and a hall, or brotherhood-house, in which the mayor, jurats, and commons of the Cinque-Ports frequently hold their sittings.

There is a weekly market and one yearly fair. The parish comprehends 2320 acres, and had, in 1831, a population of 983. The church is a very ancient and handsome building. The lower part of the tower and part of the nave are of Norman architecture and of good composition; the upper part of the tower is of early English, and the remaining part chiefly of decorated English character, with large and fine windows. The living is of the clear yearly value of 161*l*.

Up to the passing of the Reform Act, Romney returned two representatives to the House of Commons; these, like the other members for the Cinque-Ports, were styled "barons." The first return of members from the town was in the reign of Edward I. It was disfranchised by the Reform Act; and is one of the polling-places for East Kent.

At the village of Dymchurch, about four miles north-east of New Romney, along the shore of Romney Marsh, is a sea-wall or embankment of earth more than three miles in length, by which the marsh is preserved from the inundation of the sea. It is called Dymchurch wall. Its perpendicular height varies from fifteen to twenty feet above the general level of the marshes: at the side next the sea it has a slope of a hundred yards: the width of the top varies from fifteen to thirty feet. There are sluices through it for draining the marshes. Old Romney, from the decay of which New Romney arose,

is now a mere village, with a population of 113 persons.

Lydd is a corporate town, and a member of the cinque-port of New Romney, from which it is distant about three miles. The name is written in ancient records Hlyda, and is supposed to be a corruption of the Latin *littus*, "a shore," a name corresponding to its situation. It is upon the tongue of land, the termination of which is Denge Ness, about two miles from the sea; but it is probable that the sea once came nearer to it. The parish comprehends 11,660 acres, with a population, in 1831, of 1357. The town consists of houses irregularly built on an open flat, and from its being quite out of any thoroughfare, and from the decline of the contraband trade by which it was formerly supported, it is a dull, decayed place. The church is a large building, with a fine tower in the perpendicular style, and crocketed pinnacles. The market is on Thursday: the chief employment of the townsmen is in fishing. The corporation, which is left untouched by the Municipal Reform Act, consists of a bailiff, jurats, and freemen. The bailiff and jurats are justices in the borough, which is co-extensive with the parish. The living is of the clear yearly value of 1247*l*.

On the point of Denge Ness is a lighthouse 110 feet high, and a small fort. There is a spring of fresh water on this point, which is covered by the sea every tide.

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